

THE LONDON AND China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON THE ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS (VIA MARSEILLES) FROM CHINA,
JAPAN, SIAM, JAVA, PHILIPPINES, BORNEO, SINGAPORE, AND ALL PARTS
EAST OF INDIA.

In connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS," published on the departure of the Mails on
the 10th and 26th of each Month.

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Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yedo			Dec. 1
Kanagawa			" 5
Nagasaki			" 1
CHINA—			
Pekin	Oct. 26	Dec. 20	" 21
Shanghai	" "	" 30	" 21
Ningpo	" "	" 18	" 23
Foo-Chow-Foo	" "	" "	" 23
Amoy	" "	" "	" 23
Swatow	" "	" "	" 23
Hong Kong	Nov. 10	" 27	" 30
Canton	" "	" 28	" 29
Macao	" "	" "	" 29
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Oct. 26	" 20	" 23
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Touron	" "	" "	" 20
SIAM—			
Bangkok	" "	" "	" 6
BORNEO—			
Labuan	" "	" "	Nov. 5
Sarawak	" "	" "	" 4
JAVA—			
Batavia	" "	" "	Dec. 24
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Nov. 28	Jan. 2	Jan. 7
Penang	" "	Dec. 31	" 9

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s steamer, Chevy Chase, beat the P. and O. steamer Malabar, from Singapore to Hong Kong, four days with the mail news of the 10th November.

Dates from Hong Kong to 31st December were received on the 4th instant, via Calcutta and Bombay, and a summary slip of news was issued to our subscribers. A telegram of the above mails was received on the 9th instant, announcing that 100,000 Tartar troops had encamped round the Peiho, and that trade at Japan had been stopped.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this Mail.—From Hong Kong for Southampton, Messrs. H. Chevalier and D. L. Rhind. 2nd Class—Messrs. E. K. Williams, Thomas Feilder, and E. Ingledue. From Singapore, Mr. Van Trobin.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED OUTWARD.

Per St. "Malabar," at Hong Kong, on the 27th December, Mrs. Gee and child, Mrs. Menzies, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Carr, Messrs. W. Lay, Writers, Little, Day, Thwaites, Johnson, Gibb, Drew, Clasmadeux, Forbes, and Marshall, Assist. Com. Gen. Robinson and Dr. Currie. For Shanghai—Mr. Lang. For Manila—Mr. and Mrs. Guichard, Gen. and Mrs. Escario and Mr. Escario, M. Agudo, P. Hugue, Mrs. Petel and child.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. str., 4th Feb.—From Southampton to Hong Kong: Mrs. Fernandez, Dep. Asst. Com. Gen. Baily, Messrs. Williams and Howard. To Shanghai: Mr. Holdsworth. To Singapore: Mr. Boyd.—From Marseilles, 12th Feb., to Singapore: Mr. Pilliet, Mr. H. L. Von B. Waanders. To Hong Kong: Lieut.-Col. Livet, Messrs. T. Langley, J. B.

Hanoine, and F. De Veaux, the Rev. M. McGhee, and Captain Mocquart. To Singapore: Mr. Van Dolder, Mr. and Mrs. Bovries. From Gibraltar to Hong Kong: Mr. W. J. McKittrick.

Per P. and O. str., 20th Feb.—From Southampton to Shanghai: Messrs. W. Thorburn, A. Howell, and Krayer. To Singapore: Mrs. Mooyer and two infants, Mr. C. Klein, Miss Sail, Mr. J. B. Brooke. To Hong Kong: Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Ontorio.—From Marseilles, 28th Feb., to Hong Kong: Senior Colliott, Mr. A. Twining. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Don, Mr. N. Bickham, Admiral Chamer, Captain L. Lodebat, Messrs. Du Quille, Jaures, Dany-can. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Holliers, Mr. and Mrs. Paterson, Mr. E. Busing, Captain John Ross. From Gibraltar to Hong Kong: Mrs. Crespo.

Per P. and O. str., 4th March.—From Southampton to Hong Kong: Mr. H. Piper.—From Marseilles, 12th March, to Hong Kong: Mrs. McKenzie.

Per P. and O. str.—From Marseilles, 28th March, to Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Marr. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Walkinshaw.—From Alexandria to Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Cramer, Mr. and Mrs. Puttfarcken.

Per P. and O. str.—From Marseilles, 12th April, to Hong Kong: Mr. Geo. Moul.

Per P. and O. str., 20th Feb.—From Southampton to Singapore: Mr. J. A. Robertson. To Hong Kong: Lieut. H. C. Lees, R.N.

Per P. and O. str., 4th April.—From Southampton to Hong Kong: Mr. W. Chapman.

DETENTION OF MAILS.

THE detention of the present mails, which were due on the 13th instant, is partly owing to an accident to the rudder of the steamer Valetta.

THE NEW AMBASSADOR TO CHINA.

It is announced by the *Times* that Lord Elgin has consented to return to China and endeavour to get us out of our difficulties.

That Government have for some time asked him to do so we know, but the weight of our information has been that he positively declined the offer. If he has accepted it, it must, we think, be at the request of Her Majesty the Queen. It is obviously a most invidious duty to supersede, or even to be sent as a co-operator to, his own brother. From the reply made by Lord John Russell to Mr. Osborne's question on the 16th instant, this view of the case is confirmed.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

KANAGAWA.

The *North China Herald* publishes a long despatch from Mr. Consul-General Alcock, addressed to the Acting Consul at Kanagawa, with reference to the serious misunderstandings between the Japanese and Europeans at Yekuhama.

After stating that the natives make little or no distinction between one nation and another, or even one individual and another, he argues that the acts of any one member of the European family in Japan, for good or for evil, must always react and exercise a direct influence upon the interests and position of all. He then severely censures the foreigners for their indecorous and violent conduct, and believes that they have themselves to blame for so deplorable a state of affairs. The despatch adverts to the circumstance of sailors having been permitted to land without any responsible officer, and thus having frequently brought the British name into disrepute through their violence.

With reference to Mr. Telge's complaint, Mr. Alcock says he must be better satisfied than he had hitherto had reason to be, that he had not by his own conduct provoked incivility from the Japanese officials.

He thinks that the "difficulty" of the Exchange may have

partly occasioned the present deplorable position of affairs, but throughout the despatch most severely censures the Europeans.

The despatch mentions that with reference to the stoppage of trade—

Things had come to such a pass that I am not sure it was not the best thing the Japanese for the moment could do. In presence of the insane demands pressed upon them, often with menace and violence, (for such beyond doubt is the fact,) and for sums which not only the applicants could not produce in dollars, but which could not be expressed otherwise than by a long line of figures; while a lifetime would not suffice to count many of the sums claimed in itzibous. It is difficult to say whether the indecent levity and bad taste which mark many of the requisitions now under my eye, or the disregard of all treaty conditions and national interests or repute, equally manifested, are most worthy of reprehension. Some are a positive disgrace to any one bearing the name of an Englishman, or having a character to lose. Not only the sums, in their preposterous amount, are an insult to the Japanese Government to whose officers these requisitions were presented, but they are documents essentially false and dishonest as purporting to bear the names of individuals having a real existence and entitled to demand facilities for trade; whereas mere words are used as names, and made to convey gross and offensive comments. That there may be no question upon the strict correctness of this description, I annex true copies of several of these documents so disgraceful to the authors; and I have to direct you to circulate those, together with a copy of this despatch, for general information amongst the British subjects at your port. There are some outrages against society and the common interests of nations only to be fitly dealt with by giving them publicity, that the reprobation of all honest and rational men may overtake those who permit themselves such licence even where the law may fail to reach them. Some have been careful not to sign their names to the documents presented to the treasury; but you will have no difficulty in tracing them to the authors by the hand-writing and other circumstances, and I forward you the originals, that in the event of the Japanese officials who received being able to certify to the names of the parties presenting them, a copy of the same should be appended. With so much to deplore and to be amended on the one side and the other, it is not easy to apply a remedy. For the present stoppage in the issue of Japanese coins, it is quite certain the foreign applicants have themselves chiefly to thank, and they are responsible for any loss or inconvenience that may result to them or their constituents. Mr. Keswick, I observe in the correspondence you forwarded, adopts a tone of injured innocence which I must say is very ill borne out by the facts. In the face of a notification limiting all demands of British subjects or firms to a maximum of 5,000 dollars, Mr. Barber and he together, both in the same firm, do not scruple to send in requisitions on one day, the 3rd November, the first for four millions of dollars, and the second for one million four hundred thousand. Mr. Keswick alleges as an excuse (he could hardly mean it to be a justification) that others were permitting themselves the same licence, and that he took his course "as an act of protection" to the interests confided to his care, when he saw others adopting the system for the exchange of more money than they really possessed. The defence is, if possible, worse than the act defended, for if the fact of others adopting a confessedly dishonest and unworthy system (which Mr. Keswick himself seemed too much ashamed of to go on with the following day), could be any justification, the argument would be equally valid to justify his taking the officials by the throat and seizing their money without any form or requisition whatever, provided only that others could be found to set the example! I should be sorry to think, at all, that this can be Mr. Keswick's real opinion; and I have no doubt whatever that at all events the firm of high and established reputation whom he and Mr. Barber represent at this port, will be the first to condemn it, whether regarded as a question of good judgment or commercial morality. The proceeding had not in truth the poor excuse of being profitable; for the Japanese, under pressure from some they hardly knew how to resist, and clamour and irregular demands from all, seemed to have been utterly bewildered at last, and to have adopted no principle of division or proportion whatever. Thus, while Messrs. Keswick and Barber, for their collective five million four hundred thousand, received only seven hundred and forty-six dollars' worth of itzibous, others at the same time received different quota. The alternative open to Mr. Keswick and others in such circumstances, consistent with the duty they owed to their employers or constituents and the interests confided to them, was to appeal to you, that a fair proportion should be observed, and not to set aside, as of no authority, a consular notification, and ask for "exaggerated sums." This disposition to treat with open disregard and inunction alike when officially communicated by notification, I have already observed on more than one occasion. But it is for you, in the exercise of the authority with which you are legally invested in the interest of both nations, to punish all whose acts tend to turn such authority into contempt. Offences and misdemeanours have been committed by those who appear to have thought themselves safe in only disregarding the consular notifications issued by competent authority for their governance; but the Queen's Order in Council gives ample power to deal with such persons, and authority not only to punish by fine and imprisonment, but to send out of the country, those who are incorrigible.

Mr. Alcock, in conclusion, trusts that every effort will be made to allay the irritation and alarm of the Japanese Government at the shipment of their gold currency, and believes that it was this, even more than religious quarrels and encroachments, which led to the total expulsion of the Spanish and Portuguese, and the long isolation of Japan from western nations. Some of the gentlemen whose names are mentioned in this despatch have written to the *North China Herald*, stating that they feel satisfied that Mr. Alcock had been misinformed of the facts of the case. Our readers must bear in mind that these transactions originated in Kanagawa, while Mr. Alcock is resident at Yedo.

The applications to the Japanese Treasury for itzibous, by

the following published account, confirm the statement given by our Paris correspondent in our last. On 2nd Nov. Thomas Latham and others applied for exchange to the extent of one sextillion, two hundred quintillions, six hundred and sixty-six quadrillions, seven hundred and seventy-eight trillions, two hundred and forty-four billions, six hundred and one millions, sixty-six thousand, nine hundred and fifty-three; the names of friends being designated as Snooks, Jack Ketch, &c.—Rather unbusiness-like this!

CHINA.

PEKIN.

We can find no confirmation in any of the papers arrived by this mail of the rumour received by telegram, to the effect that 100,000 Tartar troops were concentrated around Peking. We are at a loss to know how this telegram originated, and must leave our readers to draw their own conclusions, although it is somewhat significant that it should have been published in time for the debates on the China question. It will be observed, however, that our Ningpo correspondent mentions the same rumour; still it is far too obscure to be made the subject of a telegram, thus giving it great authentic import. The public, after this and several previous cases, such as the blockade of the Peiho, must be chary of "Chinese telegrams," both political and commercial, the exchanges on a late occasion being in error 2d. per dollar.

The Peking Gazettes from the 11th to the 23rd Nov. possess but very little interest. Shingpaie recommends numerous officers to the favourable notice of the Emperor, and Kiling, the late Governor of Kiang Si, and who is about to move to the Governorship of Kwang-tung, prays that the whole provincial establishment may be rewarded for their restoration of order in August last (when the rebels were expelled from the province).

The Emperor is requested to allow the imposition of a duty on trade in the Kharashae country. Said duty to be 3 per cent. on the value of cattle, &c., and one large cash of a coinage called the pu-rh, and equal in value to ten ordinary cash, per catty of cotton and tobacco-leaf. Raw silk and piece goods to pay 600 pu-rh cash transit duty per picul, and sundries from Peking and Canton, 150 pu-rh cash per picul. The pu-rh are a pure copper cash, coined at Aksu, one of the Mahomedan colonies, for the use of which alone are they issued. They are counted in tango, (hundreds, Manchou), and strings (ch'uan) of ten tango each. The tango should be worth a tael silver. The city ditch of Peking is being widened and deepened, but as yet on the north side of the city only.

CANTON.

The excavations for many of the houses about to be built are nearly completed, but there still appears to be some uncertainty as to the limits of the factories.

A fire has taken place in the Commissioners' Yamen, which has destroyed a great part of it. A new Hoppo has been appointed; and the Customs Service, after having to undo two or three false steps, seems to be settling quietly down as a settled and important institution.

NINGPO.

A correspondent writes:—"All remains quiet here. The rumours of war seem to be regarded with great indifference by the Chinese. The general feeling among them seems to be, 'If the foreign soldiers do not attack this city, we care not a fig what they do at the north.'

"The only derangement occasioned here by the prospect of war with the allies, that has come to my knowledge, is a difficulty to procure sailors to man the junks, about to proceed to Tientsin with the customary revenue of rice. The men are so afraid of falling into the hands of the 'red-haired soldiers,' that they can hardly be prevailed upon to go at about double the usual wages. The Grand Canal, formerly the usual route for the Imperial rice, has been for a few years blocked up by the rebels, and is so out of repair, it is said, as to be unfit for use, so that the rice must go by sea, or not at all. Intelligent Chinese express the opinion that the seizure of the revenue rice would be about the most serious thing that could occur to the Emperor, and calculated soonest to bring him to terms. The Emperor is poor; according to recent Peking gazettes, he is obliged to practise the utmost economy. The selling of titles and offices still continues. Recently the Emperor rewarded the donor of two thousand taels with a red coral button, thus conferring upon him the title of a civilian of the second rank. Notwithstanding the embarrassed condition of the Go-

vernment, the general feeling at Pekin, as gathered by the American Minister and suite during their brief stay there, is that of security and invincibility. The Manchus and Mongolians have yet to learn the power of western nations, and the great superiority of their arms and military discipline and prowess. Even the Chinese of this port, though taught some very severe lessons in their former war with England, express the opinion that the capital is invincible. They seem to found their opinion chiefly upon the following reported facts:—That the Emperor has at the capital more than 'ten myriads' (100,000) of disciplined soldiers; that he is preparing strategic engines of destruction, and improving to the utmost his means of defence. Recently pirates have much annoyed the small Chinese craft in the vicinity of the Chusan group of islands. A few days since a boat, loaded with Government rice for the soldiers at Chusan, was taken. The leaders of these piracies are Cantonese, belonging to a small fleet of pirates who were bought off by the Ningpo officials for their own safety. On their recommendation, the whole force was taken into the service of Government, and the leader made a military mandarin at Chiu-hai, which is situated at the mouth of the river off Ningpo. Those of the band who are not out pirating are at Ningpo, spending their time in gambling, and smoking opium, and at brothels. This is a specimen of the contemptibly weak and abominably corrupt state of the Chinese Government."

SHANGHAI.

His Excellency Mr. Bruce is still at this place, but there is nothing public to indicate his occupation or intentions. As he would shortly be in possession of the news from Her Majesty's Government, we may expect the next mails to bring some signs of his intended action.

A Chinese paper is in circulation, prophesying great calamity to China: whether it is to proceed from rebels or foreigners is not quite plain. The mystic characters chosen are from the most ancient of the classics.

The *taoutai*, funding that the charitable institution usually charged with the distribution of warm clothing is not issuing any this winter, has desired that it shall be supplied, at his expense, to any pauper who gives in his name, age, and residence to the institution aforesaid. This establishment is called the Tung Jin Pu Yuen T'ang, the Hall of Common Charity applied to keep up life; but its issues of clothing are limited to every third year in the cycle.

It is rumoured that the Roman Catholic Missionaries have been interdicted from travelling in the interior in disguise.

Portion of the cargo of the Spirit of the Age, from London, was transhipped at Batavia on that vessel being condemned, and has arrived here.

Dr. Williams has delivered a lecture at the Royal Asiatic Society on the present state of affairs, including a "Narrative of the American Embassy to Pekin." It appears that the American Treaty had no stipulation that it should be exchanged at Pekin. The town of Pehtang, at which the American Commissioners procured the ratification of the treaty, derives its name from the river which flows north of it, a stream in size and appearance similar to the Peiho, or White River. It lies on the coast, five or six miles above Taku, in the eastern circuit of the metropolitan prefecture of Shuntien, and in the district of Ningho, a town about twenty miles up the river. Judging from the scores of junks at its jetties, and the docks for building them, it possesses a large trade. The population is reckoned to be over 30,000, including the people of a few hamlets thereabouts. They mostly dwell in houses made of the soil, a tenacious mud that needs to be strengthened with millet stalks when made into walls. Whether from the saltiness of the soil, or other causes, almost no grass or grain, trees, or anything green, are seen near the place.

In concluding his narrative, Dr. Williams makes the following temperate and judicious remarks:—"The reception of the embassy was courteous, rather than cordial or open; while all the antecedents of its visit might, in the minds of some persons, have justified the Chinese Government in granting it no more than a mere entry to its capital for specified purposes in a manner previously stipulated. After starting on his mission, the Minister committed himself entirely to the authorities, and they treated him in a manner to prove that some degree of confidence may be placed in them, and that they designed to carry out that part of the treaty of Tientsin which related to the visit to their capital.

"While I am ready to concede that many of the objectionable points in Chinese policy will be maintained by the rulers until

a stronger power adds force to arguments drawn from reason and humanity to induce them to alter their proceedings, there are, I think, others which are better left to the gradual advance of knowledge and intercourse between foreigners and natives. To have this Government upheld by the people, its authority must be consonant to their views, and as these change its policy will correspond; but to force the Government to act against its supposed best interest will surely produce reaction. The treaties of Tientsin were all distasteful to national pride, and jeopardised, in the opinion of many loyal subjects, the vital interests of the empire. But, with a better understanding, the fears of all classes might reasonably be expected to subside, and even give place to co-operation.

"At present Christendom stands before paganism, in this its last stronghold, in a doubtful position. Ignorance adds untold power to fear in the efforts the latter is making to resist the advancing tide, and we should be careful not to strengthen the worse side. The interests of humanity are not always strong enough to bear up against those of ambition, commerce, or conquest. But in this part of the world, at least, the arguments in favour of a peaceful progress of all the best interests of both natives and foreigners coincide. What seems to be most wanting just now is a better acquaintance with each other's motives, plans, and condition, especially among the influential classes of the empire, who, if they could believe that their own authority was not endangered, would probably be less indisposed to resist changes."

It is evident that Sir John Bowring's idea of the phrase "the Peiho river" being a mistake, is quite a delusion, and that it is called the Pei-ho, or White River, from the colour of its mud-charged waters. The country round Pekin is described as very well cultivated, but the roads, temples, and farmsteads exhibit marks of neglect. The Mission entered Pekin at the gate of the "Morning Sun."

The question of the reduction in the tonnage dues on British vessels under the American treaty still remains in abeyance. The consignees who applied to the British Consul for the privilege to be extended to their ship have not yet received a definite reply.

The second cricket match between the officers of H.M. steamers Sampson and Inflexible has been played, resulting in favour of the former. The first innings they scored 51. Inflexibles then went in and beat them by 16. In the second innings the Sampsons made up their loss, and scored 46 against their adversaries' 24, making them winners on the grand total of 5 runs.

FOO CHOW FOO.

A correspondent at this place says:—"We have as a community been somewhat pleased by the urbanity of the Chinese officials. They have given notice, it appears, that on the Loochoo group an English vessel has been wrecked, and twenty-four shipwrecked seamen cast away. The ship, they say, has gone to pieces, but the foreigners have been rescued, and are now at Napa, provided and cared for by the native authorities. The means through which this intelligence reached the Foo Chow officials was the tribute junk that has just arrived. Being already under way, and some distance from Napa, this junk was unable to bring the distressed men; but an express messenger was sent from the Napa officers on board to instruct the tribute-bearers to advise the Foo Chow mandarins, that the fact be communicated to the British Consul. The name of the ship has not been ascertained, but no doubt it is the Joseph Fletcher.

The Camilla and gunboat Bustard are both out for relaxation of a few days, and on a benevolent trip too. They are gone to rid this part of the coast of pirates, who infest it as a nuisance to native and foreign trade. Information has reached us this morning of the Bustard having been fired into and hit by a fleet of them just outside. This shows the audacity of these vagabonds daring to open fire upon one of her Majesty's vessels. However, the gunboat returned it double-quick, sharp, and strong, and destroyed four of the junks. That was only the day after she left, viz., Dec. 17.

SWATOW.

It will be observed in another place that this port was to be opened on the 1st of January, by the American Consul and by the British Consul, by virtue of the favoured nation clause in the old treaty.

HONG KONG.

So confident were the Chinese themselves that a war must be

the result of the recent proceedings, that the contractors for buildings on this island have refused to enter into any new contracts, on the ground that an Imperial edict will be issued, commanding all Chinese subjects to return to the mainland.

Mr. Green having been compelled, by ill health, to return to England, to the regret of every person in the colony, it became necessary to appoint some other barrister to act as Attorney-General so long as Mr. Adams shall continue Acting Chief Justice. It was assumed by everybody that the appointment would, as a matter of course, be offered, in the first instance, to Mr. Kingsmill, who held it before; but, to the astonishment of the public, it seems that the Governor actually made an offer of it to Dr. Bridges, relative to whom Mr. Anstey has made some extraordinary charges. It is rumoured that this offer did not receive the sanction of the real Attorney-General, Acting Chief Justice Adams.

On Mr. Tarrant's imprisonment, the *Daily Press* says: "It is said that the governor cannot alter the nature of a sentence, and that a man sentenced to the common gaol cannot be put into the debtors' prison. This is pure twaddle, as all the women so sentenced are put into the debtors' prison. The judge has stated, we believe, that he had no idea, when he passed the sentence on Mr. Tarrant, that the common gaol was such a disgraceful place. His honour has interceded for Mr. Tarrant, but in vain. It cannot be denied that a spirit of vindictiveness is displayed which is far from dignified or becoming. He is treated like a felon. It must be remembered that the high crimes and misdemeanours which he brought home to certain members of this administration have never met with even a rebuke from H.M. Government."

A most extraordinary revelation of lawyers' fees has been made in Mr. Tarrant's case. It appears, from a statement published in the *China Mail*, that Mr. Pollard's bill in the case was no less than 1,314 dols., of which was disallowed, on taxation, 322 dols.; while Dr. Bridges' bill was 1841 dols., of which also 501 dols. was disallowed. Amongst the extraordinary items, we find in Dr. Bridges' bill, "Perusing newspapers," 25 dols., though Mr. Pollard appears only to have read one, as his bill states, "Perusing newspaper," 19 dols. Further, in addition of course to the fees, we find such charges as Sunday notices, attendances, instructions, letters, &c.; the total amount disallowed on both these gentlemen's bills being no less than 823 dols. Preserve us from such sharks!

Building is rapidly increasing. Mr. Remedios has built at Pokfoohun a very fine summer retreat. There is a fine carriage road, and the piece of ground attached is being laid out in gardens. The road to the Sanatorium on the peak is being fast proceeded with. In a few days there will be a flagstaff erected on the summit, which will be used to signalise all vessels seen in the offing. Building lots in the vicinity have been advertised for sale, and will shortly be sold by auction. Round the high road they are also building magnificent houses. The water-works are being very much improved, and the granite dock, at Aberdeen, noticed in a previous issue, is almost finished. Evening amusements are rising up; there is a performance at the Hippodrome, which is crowded every evening, some of the troupe having come from Astley's; this is quite a new feature here. Theatrical performances are also very frequent.

The coolie slave trade is proceeding on a larger scale than ever. The scheme for sending free coolies to Demerara may be very good *per se*, but its effects are likely to be attended with most pernicious consequences, for, whilst the Chinese authorities were induced to legalise emigration under its provisions, the French and Spanish have moved for and obtained the same privilege on the strength of specious promises which are never meant to be carried out. As these will both pay and promise more than those charged with the British emigration scheme—or in other words are quite regardless as to what they pay or promise—a great impetus is given to the slave trade, which is thus denuded of the odium of kidnapping. Only one ship (the *Whirlwind*, with 336 males, 66 females, and 13 children) has yet sailed for British Guiana, but two more are likely to follow soon. Owing to the scarcity of rice and consequent distress in the country, no doubt coolies in abundance can be obtained for a very moderate inducement.

A fire broke out on the 29th of December, in the packhouse of Messrs. Encarnacao and Co., at the end of Endicott's Lane. The P. & O. Co.'s engine and the police engines being quickly on the spot, the fire was extinguished before the adjoining buildings were communicated with. A great many bales of cotton were

consumed. The fire is supposed to have originated from the spontaneous combustion of the cotton.

The libel case noticed in our last of Mr. Lobscheid against the *Daily Press*, has been compromised by an ample retraction and apology.

Some most exquisitely wrought Japan ware has lately been brought to this colony and sold at auction at extreme rates. It is far superior to anything of the kind ever brought here before, and seems to be procurable at Kanagawa, doubtless from Yedo.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council on the 16th of December—Present, H. E. the Governor, the Acting Chief Justice, the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, the Auditor-General, Messrs. Jardine, Dent, and Lyal—Mr. Kingsmill was sworn in as Acting Attorney-General, and took his seat accordingly. The Governor submitted an ordinance for regulating hospital accommodation and other arrangements on board Chinese passenger ships; also, one for the deportation of mendicants.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

By the French war steamer *Phlegeton*, arrived at Singapore, accounts have been received from Saigon. Admiral Page had arrived with several vessels, French and Spanish, containing troops of both nations, for the purpose of extending the French possessions at Saigon. It is to be hoped that this important commercial place will be opened shortly for the commerce of all nations. The sanitary state of the troops at Saigon was good; at Touron the health of the force was improving.

JAVA.

The second expedition sent by the Dutch Government to operate against Boni has, apparently, rapidly and effectually accomplished what the first expedition failed to do. The resolution of the Bugis appears at last to have fairly given way, and after making a brave stand at Boni, they abandoned, without a struggle, Pasempa, which is described as being almost impregnable. The following are the details as furnished by the *Batavia* papers:—On the 10th November a sufficient number of vessels had arrived at the rendezvous at Bulekomba, to permit a commencement of the campaign to be made at Sinjai, and the sailing vessels, therefore, proceeded there, in tow of the steamers, while a column, consisting of three companies of infantry, a section of the three-pounder mountain battery, two mortars, twenty-one sappers, twenty-seven cavalry, and a field ambulance, all under the command of Major Staring, was directed to march overland. To this column were also attached Aru Palakka, with about 200 followers, and the auxiliary troops of Bonthion and Bulekomba, about 500 in number. These auxiliaries were led by the Assistant-Resident, Mr. Bakkers. All the troops having been disembarked on the 3rd at Bajoa, on the 6th they marched in three divisions in the direction of Boni. No opposition was encountered until they arrived in front of that place, when the Bugis opened a sharp fire from the different works they had thrown up, which was returned by the Dutch artillery, and under cover of this the place was assailed in different quarters and the enemy driven out. In this affair the 4th battalion had 3 killed and 17 wounded. Amongst the latter were Major Kroesen, who was wounded in the breast and right arm, but not dangerously, and Lieut. Royen, who received two wounds, one in the right shoulder, and the other in the right arm. The cavalry had 1 trooper killed and 3 wounded. Lieut. Koenen received a wound in the right side. After the wounded had been attended to, and the total disappearance of the enemy ascertained, the march was resumed towards Palakka, which was reached about two o'clock in the afternoon. A heavy quall of rain, which lasted about two hours, proved a source of great discomfort to the troops, and it was not until next day that they could all be got under cover and provided with sufficient rations. A reconnaissance was made in the direction of Pasempa, and preparations commenced for attacking the enemy. After about a quarter of an hour's sharp engagement, the Bugis forsook their entrenchments, and tried to retire upon Pasempa, but in this they were frustrated by the cavalry, which intercepted them, and inflicted considerable slaughter, the Bugis refusing to throw down their arms and receive quarter. The great body of the enemy, finding their retreat cut off, returned to the campong, and, covered by the jungle, proceeded northwards in the direction of Chirana. Informed by fugitives of the previous defeats of her forces, and rightly judging that on Pasempa being taken she

would fall into the hands of the Dutch, the Queen quitted that place in the greatest haste. So great had been her panic, that at a short distance from her house her palanquin was found, which she had abandoned to mount on horseback.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The branch telegraph from Mintok to Palembang has been laid without accident, and Singapore is now in communication with the important islands of Java and Sumatra. The line hence to Batavia has not yet been opened to the public, but the whole will be handed over by the contractors to the Dutch Government within a few days, and we may then hope to be able to pass private messages.

Mr. T. Neubronner, senr., has been appointed to act as Assistant to the Resident Councillor, Police Magistrate, and Coroner at Malacca, as *locum tenens* for Lieut. F. L. Playfair, leaving on medical furlough. Mr. T. Neubronner's duties as Deputy Sheriff will, in the mean time, be discharged by Mr. J. Neubronner.

The Dutch Mail steamer from Batavia was compelled to anchor in Rho Straits, in consequence of the breaking of her piston. On information of the accident the steamer Hooghly was at once despatched to render assistance, and both vessels have arrived. The overland passengers and mails for Java, of the 26th Nov., were detained in consequence. The steamer Sir James Brooke was offered, but the Dutch Government replied by telegraph that the cost was too great. The Dutch steamer was to be ready to proceed by the 16th of January.

The Agri-horticultural Society have resolved to throw the gardens open free to the general public on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday in each week; whilst strangers, arriving from distant places, will be allowed to visit the gardens at any time. In addition to donations of 25 dollars and monthly subscriptions, His Honour the Governor and other gentlemen have subscribed additional sums of money for annual prizes.

The horses in the settlement are suffering from glanders. About twelve months ago no less than one thousand horses and ponies died of this disease.

The Governor has decided that the police force appointments shall be open to members of the uncovenanted service.

The Governor is about to proceed for a short residence on the hills of Penang.

PENANG.

Besides the steam saw mill which Messrs. Tyler and Purse have erected, they intend to add rice and flour mills. These, when set going, will be found useful to the shipping, as well as to the inhabitants of the place, and will help to draw more trade to the port.

The death of an aged veteran, Cpt. J. Cross, aged 83, has been reported.

SHIPS OF WAR ON THE CHINA STATION.

Vessel.	Class.	Guns.	Vessel.	Class.	Guns.
BRITISH.			FRENCH.		
Acorn	Brig.	12	Durance	St. Frigate	6
Acteon	Surveying	26	Duchayla	St. Frigate	40
Assistance	St. Transp.	6	Dragonne	Gunboat	6
Bittern	Brig.	6	Norazgury	Desp. St.	2
Cambrian	Frigate	40	Fusee	Gunboat	6
Camilla	Brig.	16	Gironde	St. Transp.	12
Chesapeake	Frigate	51	La Capricieuse	Frigate	40
Comorand	Desp. Str.	6	La Place	St. Transp.	—
Cruiser	St. Sloop	17	Lily	Desp. St.	2
Furious	St. Frigate	6	Marceau	St. Frigate	6
Fury	—	6	Marne	—	6
Hercules	Hospital	—	Meurthe	St. Transp.	12
Hesper	St. Transp.	2	Mitraille	Gunboat	6
Highflyer	St. Corv.	21	Nemesis	Frigate	50
Indefatigable	St. Frigate	6	Peiho	Desp. Str.	2
Magicienne	—	6	Phlegeton	Stm. Sloop	3
Melville	Ship	6	Prezent	—	—
Minden	Hulk	—	Primauguet	—	3
Nimrod	Desp. Str.	4	Rose	Desp. Str.	—
P. Charlotte	Hulk	—	Saone	Stm. Sloop	13
Roeback	Desp. Str.	6	RUSSIAN.		
Sampson	St. Frigate	6	America	Desp. Str.	6
AMERICAN.			Askold	Frigate	44
German town	Sloop	20	Bjarrin	Stm. Sloop	10
Powhattan	St. Frigate	9	Dugutte	Gunboat	3
Hartford	—	20	Giron	Gunboat	3
FRENCH.			Manjoor	St. Frigate	6
Alarm	Gunboat	6	Novick	Sloop	10
Arvalanche	Gunboat	6	Opriknick	Gunboat	3
Catinat	St. Frigate	6	Palinstoun	Gunboat	3
Didon	Frigate	50	Rinda	Stm. Sloop	11
Dordogne	St. Frigate	6	Streloet	Gunboat	3
			Voyersada	Stm. Frigate	11

• MERCHANT STEAMERS IN CHINA WATERS.—Engaged in the Canton, Hong Kong, and Macao traffic.—British: Fei Ma, Sir Charles Forbes, Sir J. Jeejeebhoy, Hong Kong, Irw. Prince, Mee Lee. American: Pak Wan, Willamette, Cumis, Spack. Portuguese: Inveigado, Shamrock.

BRITISH GUNBOATS IN THE CHINA WATERS.

69 Kestrel	70 Banterer	87 Forester	91 Opossum
73 Crown	81 Firm	89 Haughty	93 Dove
78 Woodcock	83 Slaney	91 Staunch	97 Drake
75 Watchful	84 Leven	92 Bustard	Insolent
76 Janus	85 Algerine	93 Starling	

SAILED SINCE SEPTEMBER 22.—Pioneer, screw, 6; Scout, screw, 21; Pearl, screw, 20; Imperieuse, screw frigate, 51; Reynard, screw, 4; Snake, screw, 4; Encounter, screw, 14; Centaur, paddle frigate, 6; Sphinx, paddle frigate, 6; Ringdove, screw, 6; Beagle, screw, 4; Odin, paddle frigate, 16; Simoom, screw transport, 8; Vulcan, screw troopship, 6; and gunboats, Snap, Swinger, Cockchafer, Weazel, Bouncer, Havoc, Hardy, Grasshopper, and Flamer.

Our Own Correspondents.

FRANCE.

PARIS, 11th Feb. 1860.]

THE EXPEDITION TO CHINA.

The French Government has, in consideration of the importance of the naval force included in the expedition to China, determined to send out a Vice-Admiral to take the command, and the choice has fallen on Vice-Admiral Charner, who goes out by the next overland mail. This officer has been in China before, and commanded the French squadron in the Black Sea during the Crimean war. Rear-Admiral Page will, it is said, remain in Cochin China. It is said that the number of French vessels of war in the Chinese seas will amount to sixty when the transports with the gunboats have arrived there. The steam despatch-boat Forbin was at the Cape on the 3rd December, when several English transports were loading horses for India. The following officers have been appointed to command gunboats:—Lieutenants de Saisset, Th. Brosset, Salmon, Béhic, Racaud, Jurin, Devarames, James, Peyron, and Dol.

The gunboats themselves are made in fifteen separate pieces; one of them has been put together in the dockyard basin at Toulon. It is said that the three English steam transports, which are to carry out the gunboats, will positively be employed afterwards in the establishment of a regular service between Suez and China; so it seems probable that the proposed French mail will be commenced before long, thus putting Europe in connection with China three if not four times a month. Until further orders, all the dispatches addressed to the French expedition in China are to be sent to Hong Kong. The charge on letters for soldiers or sailors is 30 centimes the 1 oz.

I have just heard that Vice-Admiral Charner has appointed for the chief of his staff Capt. Lafon de Lèbat; Capt. Lecourian-Duquilio, and Lieut. Jaurès, as his aides-de-camp. There will be two general officers under his orders, — Rear-Admiral Page, now in China, and Rear-Admiral Protet, who left here lately. The naval division of Indo-China will consist of one ship of the line, two steam frigates, five sailing frigates, a sailing corvette, the *Capricieuse* which carries the flag of Capt. d'Aboville, military commandant of Canton; 3 steam corvettes, 5 steam dispatch boats, 24 of which are of iron, and a number of transports, pontoons, and flat-bottomed boats for the navigation of rivers, making together about 65 vessels of war. Vice-Admiral Charner will proceed by the next overland boat from Marseilles. He will hoist his flag on board the *Renommé*, which left Brest for Canton late in November last.

Captains Lefraper, Langavant, and Libaudière, of the French navy, have been appointed to the command of the three steamers, the *European*, the *Weser*, and the *Japan*, which the Government recently purchased in England to serve as transports to China. It was supposed that each of these vessels could have carried out six of the gunboats which take to pieces, together with the officers and crews belonging to them; but it has been found that four boats and their respective crews will be quite enough to fill each steamer, and accordingly the French Government has chartered some merchant vessels to carry out the remainder of the gunboats and crews.

COCHIN CHINA.

The bulletin of the attack and capture of the north-east fort of Touron, on the Hué road, in Cochin China, signed by Col. Bernarda Ruiz de Lanzarote, and dated the 19th Nov., 1859, has been published in the *Gazette de Madrid*. In consequence of a council of war held on board the *Némésis*, on the 17th Nov., the *Marne* took on board 400 French and 200 Spaniards, forming the reserve under Col. Reibaut. The colonel who signs the bulletin embarked in the *Don Jorge Juan*, with 200

chasseurs. On the 18th the *Némésis*, towed by the steamer *Regent*, was put in motion. All the vessels were at their posts—the *Némésis* frigate, the steamers *Regent*, *Phlégon*, *Jorge-Juan*, the *Marne*, and the gunboats *Avalanche* and *Alarmer*. The enemy opened fire from the under north-west battery. The *Némésis* and other vessels replied. After half an hour's firing the enemy was silenced. The admiral then gave orders for landing, and M. Despalier, with 200 men, attacked the under battery, while the Spanish colonel, with his companies, directed his attack against the north-west battery. The enemy abandoned their guns as soon as the attacking party had climbed 300 feet of the height which dominates the fortress. They were pursued, but took refuge in a wood. In the fortress were five 32-pounders, a quantity of gunpowder, lances, and sabres. The under battery was defended by two bronze 16-pounders, two other smaller pieces, and the piece which had opened fire. There was found a quantity of ammunition and many muskets. The occupation of this point intercepts the communications between the capital and the Cochin Chinese forces. These advantages cost the allies dear. The commander of the artillery, M. Deroulède, was killed by a bullet on board the *Némésis*; another officer was killed, and several persons wounded. Two hundred French are in position to guard the pagoda and lower battery.

Last October twelvemonth the silk-growers of Lombardy, alarmed by the *épidémie* which destroyed the worm, organised an expedition to China to collect eggs exempt from malady. Some three months ago the arrival at Kouang-Tcheou was announced of Count Castellani, one of the chiefs of this expedition, to which the French Society of Acclimation had contributed assistance. The traveller has now returned, and can furnish for the crop of 1860 regenerated eggs to the French and Italian subscribers. Thanks to the assistance rendered him by the French and English Governments, Count Castellani was able to penetrate into the interior of China, and to practise on a large scale the preparation of the most valuable varieties of eggs. With the aid of the Chinese Catholics he was initiated into all the secrets of the Chinese sericulture, which is never known to be attacked by the malady. Having completed his studies and observations by a voyage to Japan, Count Castellani returned to Europe, having divided and sent the 108 cases of eggs by three different routes—36 by way of North America, the same number by way of California, and the same by Suez. The latter 36 cases were accompanied by the Count himself, in order that he might give them all his care on account of the high temperature of the countries through which they had to pass. All went well as far as Suez; but, in spite of all he could do, the Egyptian officials left the cases exposed four days to the sun, by which great loss was caused. Count Castellani is at this moment at Cairo, claiming indemnity for the same. The remaining 62 cases, which have arrived safely in Italy, will more than supply the quantity subscribed for in advance.

A pamphlet has appeared on the subject of the Belgian expedition to China, which we noticed in our last. The semi-official tone of the pamphlet betrays high patronage. It proposes that the Belgian expeditionary force should be placed under the orders of the command-in-chief of the Anglo-French forces. Having taken part in the war, Belgium would be entitled to a share of the same advantages that might accrue to the English and French in the war-indemnity imposed upon the Chinese, and one of the islands at the mouth of the Yang-tze-Kiang ought to be given to Belgium for establishing a colony. The Belgian writer settles the whole affair as if the campaign was already terminated in the most amusing manner.

RUSSIA.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 5.

Some time ago unpleasant rumours of the hostile feeling of the Chinese towards the Russians were in circulation here, and created such alarm that the official journals were ordered to contradict them. It now appears, however, that, though perhaps exaggerated, there was some foundation for these reports. I have seen a letter from Kiachta, in which the writer says he has received accounts from China stating that since their victory at the mouth of the Peiho, the Chinese have greatly altered their tone, and affect to treat with supercilious contempt all foreign barbarians, and try continually to pick a quarrel with even the Russians, whom they had hitherto treated with civility and respect. It says further, that the Chinese cannot be brought to understand the Russian character, or the peaceful intentions of their powerful neighbours. They have no idea of the immense military forces at the command of the emperor, and fancy that Russia only exists upon sufferance, and because China has hitherto graciously abstained from declaring war.

The letter lays great stress on the very precarious state in which China is at this moment placed, as the insurgents are moving towards Peking, and the Anglo-French expedition is looming at the distance of a few short months. "What will become of China," says the writer, "if the insurgents at home unite with the foreign allies, and make a joint attack on Peking? There will be no other course left then but for the court to retire to their own original home in Manchuria."

From Nicolajefsk, on the Amoor, the arrival of four Russian ships of war is reported. On the 30th of September (12th of October), the *Oxus*, from London direct, arrived in De Castries' Bay with a valuable cargo. A Hamburg barque with American goods on board had also arrived at Nicolajefsk. The Amoor Company's transport *St. Theodosius* was preparing to sail for Kamtschatka, to load furs for Japan, with which latter country the Company intend to trade on a large scale. Several English and Belgian engineers and mechanics had arrived out by the above vessels, as well as fifteen Russian fishermen from Archangel, and several other persons engaged by the Company in different capacities.

In a scientific point of view, the late cruise of the Russian ships of war in the Japan seas has been attended with some successful results; for in the beautiful bay of Corea they discovered three large islands not to be found on any existing charts, and named them *America*, *Nachodka*, and *Voyvoda* respectively. *America* Island lies at the furthest end of the island of Chu-sim, in the Gulf of Corea. The geographical position of *Nachodka* is laid down as in 42° 45' N. lat., and 133° 2' 30" E. long. from Greenwich; whilst *Voyvoda*, with very dangerous reefs surrounding its approaches, is given as lying in 42° 14' 30" N. lat., and 137° 17' East of Greenwich.

Dispatches have been received here by the Government from Count Murawieff, in which he confesses the intention he entertained to bombard the Japanese town of Jokshama as a signal revenge for the murder of the Russian officer, but states that he refrained from doing so at the instance of Captain Unkofsky, the commander of the frigate *Askold*, as the Japanese authorities expressed the greatest concern for the unpremeditated act, and their perfect willingness to punish the offenders. He adds that the Japanese Government have further promised to build a chapel for the Russians, and keep it always in repair at their own expense. I am not aware of any similar concession being made to any other Christian nation.

The Minister of Finances is busily occupied with the tea question, which, as I learn from good authority, will be very shortly settled, and that too in a most liberal spirit. If the Czar does not yet go so far as the Emperor of the French in adopting the principle of free trade generally, he will probably as much astonish the world by deviating in this case from the hereditary policy of Russia. The tea trade has been hitherto, as most of your readers are aware, little better than a monopoly carried on by a few wealthy houses at Kiachta, in Siberia, on the Chinese frontier, the importation by sea being totally prohibited, and that by land restricted to the above town. This fully accounts for the very high price of tea in Russia; for, besides the import duty, which amounts to nearly 100 per cent., the enormous expense of land carriage for several thousand miles, and the profit of the numerous dealers through whose hands it passes, tend to swell the price to the consumer. Common tea, which fetches not more than 15 to 25 copecks per Russian lb. of about 14 oz. (or 6d. to 10d. per lb.), costs at St. Petersburg 2½ to 3 roubles (or from 8s. 4d. to 10s. per lb.). The above-mentioned high protective duty naturally opens a wide door for smuggling across the frontiers, which in that distant and thinly-populated region is by no means difficult. And indeed there can be no doubt that it is carried on to an extent scarcely to be credited; and I am enabled to state, on the authority of a high official functionary in the Finance Department, that this demoralising traffic, by which the Government are the chief losers by the non-payment of duty, is fully equal to the quantity of tea imported in a legitimate manner. The wonder is, why this state of things should have been permitted to exist so long, the Government being perfectly aware of it; and it is therefore not surprising to learn that the system will now be abandoned, and the importation of tea opened up to public competition by sea and by land. For some time past a commission has been patiently examining the whole question, and going through a most voluminous mass of evidence in detail. This commission has at length completed its labours, and sent in a report to the Finance Department. The exact nature of the proposed measures contained in this report has not

publicly transpired, but I have good reason to believe I am warranted in preparing your readers for a most wonderful change in the system, which may be expressed in a few words, and summed up as follows: a moderate duty on tea, and permission to import it by sea and by land into any port of the empire, and by any part of the frontiers.

The *Abeille du Nord*, of St. Petersburg, publishes the following:—"What can European nations want in China but security and liberty of commerce in the seaports? It is there that the power of European nations can be sensibly felt without being exposed to considerable losses in men and money. Would it not be better, instead of treating directly with an impotent Government, to make arrangements with the local authorities? Let the *Pekin Gazette* occupy itself with chimerical attacks on Europeans, your honour will not suffer. The principal object is to convince the Mandarins in the provinces on the sea coast that an exemplary chastisement awaits them every time a Chinaman shall commit a crime, or even an offence, against a European. The population in the interior laugh at the idea of an invasion of their provinces. In our opinion, it would not be bad policy to accept the Emperor of China's apology for the lamentable incident of the Peiho. In this manner a campaign in the interior of the Celestial Empire might be avoided. At all events, after having obtained satisfaction in one way or another, it will become necessary to revise the treaty of Tientsin, and substitute clauses favourable to commerce, in place of those which are insulting to the Chinese, and cannot be executed. Any other arrangement will lead to permanent collisions most injurious to trade."

HOLLAND.

AMSTERDAM, February 10.

In consideration of the difficulties to which the trade of this country with Japan is exposed, and the unpleasant position in which the Dutch subjects residing in that empire are placed, the merchants of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Dordrecht, and Middelburg have drawn up and signed a memorial, and forwarded it to the Minister for the Colonies. In this document the memorialists acknowledge with gratitude the favourable commencement of their trade with Japan, and pay a high compliment to the Dutch Government for the wisdom and statesmanlike conduct they displayed in gradually breaking down the barriers which stood in the way, and inducing the Japanese to make concessions step by step. But they cannot help calling the attention of the Minister that they are placed at a great disadvantage as compared with the subjects of other foreign Powers, who are always supported and protected by an imposing naval force. Although the petitioners do not entirely agree with this principle of moral coercion, yet it so far coincides with their opinion that the government of every country is bound to afford its merchants just protection in carrying on their lawful trade; and they see with regret that the Dutch man-of-war that was for some time past stationed in the waters of Japan had been withdrawn, by which the lives and property of the Dutch merchants were left without any protection whatever, and exposed to the violence of a semi-barbarous people, in case of any sudden outbreak and conflict. Lastly, they deprecate the system hitherto followed of intrusting the interests of the merchants in Japan to one of their own body, instead of appointing an influential and independent diplomatist to that important office. They conclude by requesting the Minister to take the subject into his serious consideration, and hope he will take immediate steps to station a ship of war permanently either at Nagasaki, Kanagawa, or Jeddo, and appoint a representative of the King to further the interests of the mercantile community without himself belonging to it.

The ravages lately made by the so-called pile-worm at Nieuwendam have undermined the foundations of so many buildings, and to such an extent, that a number of houses have literally fallen in, and their ruins so encumber the entrance to the harbour that all navigation in that busy port with its industrious fishing population is for the present suspended. This little worm attacks in myriads the piles on which all the houses in Holland are built, consuming them with a rapacity and quickness second only to the ravages of the white ants in India. They seem to appear periodically. Some years ago quite a panic was caused in this city by the sudden ravages of this little insect, fears being entertained for the immediate and irreparable destruction of the whole city, as every building in this swampy locality is constructed on an artificial foundation of wooden piles driven into the mud. Under the Hotel de Ville alone there are no less than 80,000 such piles. It was with reference to this mode of building that the learned Erasmus, on his arrival at Amsterdam, facetiously wrote to a friend that "he had arrived at a city where the inhabitants lived like crows on the tops of trees."

The revenue of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for 1860,

contained in the Budget for the financial year, presented to the States-General by the King's order, is composed as follows:—

	Florins	cents.
Direct taxes.....	20,052,987	89½
Customs.....	4,409,409	00
Excise.....	17,964,757	44
Registrations, legacy duty, &c.....	11,980,191	03½
Certificates of nationality on gold and silver articles.....	233,247	74
Post-office.....	1,853,110	05½
Lottery.....	401,542	00
Total.....	56,895,245	16½

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, AND RESIGNATIONS.

The King has been pleased to accept the resignation of the Baron de Kock, Vice-President of the Supreme Council in India, who retires from the civil service 30th June next, with most honourable certificate and a pension for life.

Mr. A. Prins, hitherto member of the Supreme Council in India, is promoted to be Vice-President of the same from the 1st July next, vice Baron de Kock, resigned.

Mr. H. C. van der Wyk, hitherto Resident of Soerabaya, to be member of the Supreme Council in India, vice Prins, promoted to be Vice-President.

Mr. T. H. van Rees to be member of the Court of Justice at Batavia.

Mr. L. Hovy to be President of the Court of Justice at Amboyna.

Mr. W. Jonas to be member of the Court of Justice at Macassar.

The following officers of the East India Civil Service have received two years' leave of absence for the benefit of their health:—Messrs. W. E. van der Hout, J. van Ooyen, J. F. Lange, K. Graafland, J. S. van Coevorden, and J. Nettekoven.

In my letter of October 7 last (see *China Express*, No. 22), I mentioned that a detachment of colonial troops had been sent from this country by the Wassenaar, Dutch frigate, to Lisbon, where they were transferred to the chartered transport Alcor for further passage to Java. By the overland mail, accounts have been received of the safe arrival of the Alcor at Batavia on the 3rd December, and the troops—124 men, under the command of Captain van Harreveldt—immediately proceeded to the garrison depôt at Weltevreden. During the voyage one of the men was washed overboard in a gale off the Cape of Good Hope.

The Dutch East India Company have issued a notice that their first periodical coffee sale will be held on the 21st March, at Rotterdam, and promise to sell no other Java and Sumatra coffee, except damaged parcels, till their usual sale in the autumn. In the March sale the quantity to be offered for public competition will consist of 331,154 bags, and the samples will be ready for inspection on the 24th February.

LECTURE ON JAPAN BY DR. MACGOWAN.—SOCIETY OF ARTS.—At a meeting of this society, held on the 1st instant, Sir Thomas Phillips, Chairman of Council, in the chair, Dr. Macgowan delivered his first lecture in London on Japan. The Doctor, after a brief glance at the volcanic origin of the islands, proceeded at once to the precious metals and their relative value, upon which he gave much valuable information. From his statement gold is most abundant, being, indeed, in its relative value to silver, as 1 to 5, instead of as 1 to 15, as it is in Europe. Silver is not plentiful; but copper, which is a government monopoly, is particularly abundant; numerous articles, even their gutters and house-shutters, are made of it, and they are most ingenious in blending it with other metals. There is scarcely any iron in Japan, and their cutlery, consequently, is poor and coarse. Their swords, however, are of admirable workmanship and temper. The learned Doctor said that these swords are scrupulously preserved in the family, and carefully handed down from generation to generation; in fact, they are quite historical, and regarded in the same light as we look upon our old castles and abbeys. There are mines of antimony, tin, lead, and mercury. Sulphur is plentiful, and coal may be had in great abundance, but, owing to the want of good machinery, is at present procured with difficulty. Japan affords to the botanist a wide field of discovery, the forests in the ravines being as yet unexplored. Their paper manufacture is most extensive; numerous articles are made of this, that western nations could scarcely credit; not only pocket handkerchiefs, umbrellas, &c., but overcoats are made of it, and these are quite impervious to the rain. Velvet, satin, gauze, and silk are produced there, the latter being 50 per cent. cheaper than in China; their maps, also, are admirable, and wonderfully cheap, being about a farthing each. All these topics were illustrated by a large and very interesting collection of the products of the country, consisting of arms and other works in metal, ceramic ware, silks, and woven fabrics, as well as specimens of raw produce of various kinds. The Doctor concluded his lecture with a brief sketch of the people, whom he described as sensual, and decidedly not sober. The population he estimated at 30,000,000, and expressed his earnest hope that the opium traffic would not be extended to this the perhaps most interesting country in the East. The proceedings terminated with a most cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer. We are glad to find that Dr. Macgowan purposes giving a course of similar lectures in London.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHINA DEBATE.—On the 13th inst., Mr. B. COCHRANE brought forward his notice of our relations with China, and argued that our first differences were attributable to Lord Elgin demanding the right of a British resident minister at Peking, and the subsequent acts of our ambassador in forcing the passage of the Peiho.—Admiral Sir M. SEYMOUR offered some remarks on the origin of our troubles at Canton with the *Imperial Arrow*; he observed that if hostilities were carried up to Peking, we should find, as at Canton, no one to negotiate with, and recommended great moderation towards the crumbling Chinese Government. He referred to the disagreement between him and Lord Elgin, and complained of certain despatches written by his lordship to the Government, in which he had strongly declaimed against his official conduct. The gallant admiral also noticed these matters having been brought forward by Mr. Oliphant, in his late work on Lord Elgin's mission, with a view of poisoning the public mind. He moved for the production of the following papers, and throughout his speech was most attentively listened to. Sir Michael moved for copies of the letters of the Earl of Elgin, the Secretary of the Admiralty, and Foreign Secretary on the questions alluded to.

On the following day Mr. Oliphant wrote to the *Times* as follows:—

"The 'whole story' is to be found in certain unpublished documents, containing an account of Sir Michael Seymour's proceedings, reflecting so little credit upon the conduct of that officer, that, so far from seeking to 'poison the public mind' against him, I carefully abstained from referring to them. As, however, he has now seen fit to make so grave a charge against me, I shall cause the whole of the suppressed papers to be moved for in the House of Commons, a few of which, I see, only are included in the motion of Sir Michael Seymour for to-night, in order that the public may have an opportunity of judging for themselves how far this charge is justified."

The *Times*, in noticing Sir Michael's speech, condemned his discretion for bringing forward the squabbles which should have been allowed to sink in the muddy waters of the Peiho. Now, this is rather hitting the wrong man; the real offender is the one who first brought them before the English public, in a work of such notoriety as Mr. Oliphant's narrative of Lord Elgin's mission. The gallant admiral could not allow it to pass unnoticed, and very properly used his privilege as an M.P. in giving equal publicity to his side of the case. It will be remembered, however, that when intelligence reached this country in July, 1858, the *Times* condemned the admiral's conduct most roundly, alleging that the French were waiting for him to "move on," &c. It was subsequently demonstrated, however, that the reverse was the case; and Mr. Oliphant, in a late speech, narrated how our officers helped the French boats out of the mud, &c. A correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* quoted the French admiral's words to one of his officers:—"Why, sir, the Cormorant had silenced the fort before you got abreast of it."

LORD JOHN RUSSELL proceeded to justify Mr. Bruce for acting in accordance with his instructions, and stated that after the arrival of the next (present) mail he should be prepared to state the course intended by Government.—LORD PALMERSTON and SIR JOHN PAKINGTON hoped the House would be satisfied with this statement, and defer the discussion, which was agreed to, after some remarks from Sir De Lacy Evans, Sir C. Napier, Sir J. R. B. Philipstone, Admiral Walcott, and Lord C. Paget.

In the House of Lords, on the 14th, LORD MALMESBURY said he could not assent to the assertion of Lord John Russell that Mr. Bruce had followed exactly his instructions, and on the 21st he will explain his interpretations.—On the 16th, MR. C. BRUCE moved for the correspondence between the Earl of Elgin, Lord Malmesbury, and the Earl of Clarendon.

THE DEMANDS UPON CHINA.—MR. SEYMOUR FITZGERALD inquired of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any convention had been entered into between her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Emperor of the French with reference to the demands to be made by both Governments on that of China.—LORD J. RUSSELL said there was no such convention as that to which the hon. member alluded, but only the ordinary understanding subsisting between Powers so engaged.

PETITIONS (CHINA).—By MR. H. Berkeley, from Bristol; MR. Hadfield, from Sheffield; MR. Baines, from Leeds; MR. Beecroft, also from Leeds; MR. Salt, from Bradford, and Lord Grey, in the House of Lords, from Newcastle, praying the House to adopt some means to avert the impending hostilities with China.

NOTICES OF MOTION (CHINA).—MR. LINDSAY moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the burdens and restrictions especially affecting the merchant shipping, and the Chinese Passenger Act (1855). MR. EDWIN JAMES.—Address for copies or extracts of all correspondence or other papers on the following subjects, or any of them:—The resignation of the Justiceship of the Peace for Hong Kong by Mr. Thomas Chisholm Anstey, sent in to the Local Government on the 13th day of May, 1858; his suspension, on the 7th day of August, 1858, from the Attorney-Generalship of the colony of Hong Kong, and from the office of Counsel to the Superintendency of Trade in China; the case of the Queen v. Tarrant, for libel, tried at the November Sessions (1858) of the Hong Kong Supreme Court (criminal side); the charge of alleged complicity of Mr. Caldwell, J.P. and Protector of Chinese at Hong Kong, with Hong Kong pirates; the charges made against the acting Colonial Secretary (Dr. Bridges) with reference to the foregoing subjects, and also the opium farm monopoly; the proceedings against Mr. May, Superintendent of Police at Hong Kong, Mr. Tarrant, Registrar of Deeds there, and the Police-court Interpreter, Tong Akou, and the dismissal of the Police-court Interpreter Assam, for having severally given evidence against the said parties, or any of them; and the imperial regulations (if any) by which the several suspensions or removals before-mentioned were authorised.

Spirit of the Press.

THE DEBATES ON CHINA.

THE Chinese correspondence offers a conclusive vindication of the course pursued by Mr. Bruce and Admiral Hope. It unravels the whole web of studied duplicity and persevering hostility practised by the Chinese officials through out the negotiation for the ratification of the treaty of Tientsin. A strong and numerous war party at Peking had gained the ascendant in the councils of the emperor; the defeat of the objects of the treaty, and therefore of its ratification, had been predetermined; and the method of defeat was to be such that the British and French governments should, if possible, be precluded from visiting it as a *casus belli* on the Emperor of China. From the instructions given by the Chinese commissioners to the British envoy to sail for the Pei'o, and, after anchoring his vessels of war outside the bar of the river, to proceed with a moderate retinue to Peking, it is clear that, finding they could not overcome the resolution of Mr. Bruce not to be tampered with at Shanghai, they were resolved to resort to force, and to stop his advance at the mouth of the river. In order to throw the best veil over this act of treachery, the Chinese government takes care that there shall be no personage of authority to receive Mr. Bruce at the mouth of the river, as Kwei'ang had promised, and that his progress shall be arrested without any show of imperial authority. It was found convenient, therefore, to term the garrison of the forts at this point an "armed table," acting without authority, and to haul down the imperial flag, as though the garrison had been a body of Malay pirates. The Chinese government accordingly require us to believe that an armed body of men would fire upon our envoy and his fleet without authority; while the commissioners assert to Mr. Bruce that even they could not venture to choose for themselves a sea route, in place of one by land, without the sanction of the emperor! No sooner does Admiral Hope anchor his vessels outside the bar, and send the *Fury's* gig across it, than permission to land is refused, and the boat's crew are threatened by the garrison. Here is the first resort to force, and it is on the side of the Chinese. The imperial government, too, in ignoring the authority of their own troops, would have justified even the initiation of force by ourselves, in order to effect the landing which the commissioners had desired Mr. Bruce to effect. Mr. Bruce and M. Bourbillon agree that they have a right to regard the river as the natural highway to the capital, and to clear the way against "unauthorised persons."—*Morning Post*.

THE case of Mr. Bruce and of his subordinates is shortly this:—"We knew that we were going to be taken in. We were, as Englishmen, characteristically determined that we would not be taken in. We assumed the initiative. We were beaten. But still we maintain that we had good reason for what we did." Although we believe, and, as far as we can see, shall continue to believe, that the case is not complete, we cannot deny that the state of facts, as disclosed by the recent publication of papers, is entitled to consideration. It is very difficult indeed to comprehend what the Chinese Government require of us. If we are to believe reports, they yield everything to Russia and America which they refuse to France and England. The despatches published in this journal during the past week, evidence strong, sturdy Toryism on the part of the Cabinet of Peking; but that Toryism, if it be compatible with Russian inspirations, is inexplicable when measured by the open handed manner in which the United States Mission was received. In this, more than in any other way, must Admiral Hope's achievement of the Peiho be judged. On the principles of international law, it is inexcusable. As a question of discretionary action regulated by difficulties, we cannot say that, in the position in which he and Mr. Bruce were placed, we might not have done likewise. Among the most important features in these negotiations, we cannot shut our eyes to the shuffling of the Chinese authorities who dealt with Mr. Bruce. The ratifications were positively guaranteed by treaty to be exchanged within a given period. Commissioners at Shanghai intimated to Mr. Bruce that "they were the only authorities by whom the exchange of the ratified treaties at Peking could be effected," and they themselves allowed that the ratification could not take place at the capital until a month later than the period named. Whether they were really honest or not in their intentions, their acts were strangely in antagonism with the appearance of good faith and honesty. Mr. Bruce was justified in what he did by the rules of human forbearance; but, on the higher rule of international integrity, we might have done what the envoy of the United States did. The latter was patient, reliant, and powerful. We were impatient, suspicious, and powerful. Mr. Bruce could not even enforce his mission, and succeeded. We had force to compel ours, and failed. The papers lately published, if they exonerate Mr. Bruce, as to a certain extent we think they do, cannot excuse his policy. We may, and we do, acquit the man; but the principle is as indefensible as ever.—*Morning Chronicle*.

THE position of parties as to the China question is like the situation in the *Critic*. Ministers in and Ministers out have something to defend that places them in attitudes of embarrassment and awkwardness. We think with Lord Derby, that Government was wrong in approving the conduct of Mr. Bruce. He should have considered his mission at an end when he found his progress resisted, instead of attempting, with an insufficient force, to fight his way to the ratification of a peace. But hardly out of the mouth of Lord Derby are the words that Mr. Bruce was to blame for deciding whether there was or was not a sufficient cause of war, when he exonerates him by declaring that we had never been at peace with China! A door, say the French, must be either open or shut; and the door of the Temple of Janus must, we suppose, be like all other doors in this respect. In English, indeed, we have the middle term of ajar, just fitting the case as the Chinese see it. The bravery which a commander exhibits in common with the humbleness of his followers is not to exonerate him from faults in management, involving a grievous disaster and frightful carnage. For errors of judgment there must always be large allowance, but with this condition, that all care

has been taken to form a correct judgment. Now Admiral Hope had his council of war before the landing for the attack on the forts; but did he call to it all whose military rank and experience gave them a title to a place in it? It is confidently asserted that he did not, and that an officer in command of a part of the forces was left out of the council whose voice would have been most decisively against the landing in the mud. That disastrous landing was specially recommended by an officer of inferior rank to the one so invidiously excluded from the council of war.—*Examiner*.

The language of Mr. Bruce, in his letter to Lord Malmesbury of January 31, shows that, like many of his countrymen, the mission would have had no value in his eyes unless it had been accompanied with circumstances which made it humiliating to the Chinese Government. He was determined to be indebted for nothing to the good will of the Chinese, but to ascend the Peiho with military parade. The conclusion we have come to on reading his despatches, with a recollection of the observations of Lord Elgin and the Consul, contained in the last Blue-book on China is, that it was not at all necessary for Mr. Bruce on the one hand to expose himself to indignity, after all we have done in China, by going to Peking with less than proper state; nor, on the other, to plunge the two countries again into war; but that with firmness and patience, and a reasonable regard for the weakness of the Chinese Government, he might have obtained the fair and pacific execution of the treaty. The stipulations of that instrument are too comprehensive and far-reaching for the advantages they promise to be realised all at once. As Lord Elgin observed in transmitting them to his Government, they involve a revolution in the policy of China; and revolutions, we know, cannot be made in a day. Whoever pretends that this treaty can be at once enforced in all its provisions by any amount of bloodshed and devastation is a charlatan. We can never enjoy its full operation without gaining the confidence of the Chinese Government and people—a difficult task, looking at the education of both in history; but quite practicable by the observance of mingled firmness and moderation.—*Daily News*.

MR. BRUCE neither agrees in opinion with the English nor the Chinese Government. He has planned out for himself a course of action different from that proposed by both; and what are the means which he takes to promote his own views and purposes? Why, by writing despatches to the Foreign Office which are not only unworthy of the dignity of his position, and not only afford proof of his utter incapacity to negotiate on the side of peace, but despatches that are filled with ill-will and malice to the Chinese, which contain disgracefully perverted statements of fact, which are confuted by the representations made by Mr. Oliphant and others of high authority, and which are, altogether, the most shamelessly narrow-minded and evil-disposed communications we ever read in any diplomatic correspondence. The complete success of Mr. Ward's mission is, indeed, the decisive answer to all that can be urged in justification of the policy of Mr. Bruce; and as our Minister feels that such is the case, instead of forwarding Mr. Ward's own account of his reception at Peking, or the accounts of those who were with him, he presents a partisan narrative of his own concoction, of the truth of which he has no personal experience, and which is utterly opposed to every narrative that has come from the pens of those American gentlemen who went to Peking in connection with the Embassy. Mr. Bruce can only see in a guard of honour the evidence that the Americans were kept under arrest, and he reproduces some of the traditions connected with the old Macartney mission to prove that the less honourable mode of conveyance in China is in carriage, and not in chairs. On the great chair question Mr. Bruce is as profound as the learned pig Toby was on the question of mashed turnips; but while Toby performed simply for the sake of support, Bruce perverts so that he may have an empire humbled at his feet. He can even tell us what Mr. Ward would not have done if Mr. Ward had been possessed of Mr. Bruce's information, for, says he, the American Envoy would have refused to do what was "agreeable to the personal vanity of the Chinese" had the matter been properly explained to him. Mr. Bruce, indeed, wishes the Foreign Office to understand that Mr. Ward is a simpleton; and Mr. Bruce is just the very last man who has the sense to perceive that good manners alone, if there were no higher consideration, ought to dictate that we should be content with Mr. Ward's own account of his own mission, and all the more so since it has received the approval of the Government under whose instructions he acted. Now, we want to know, are we to be at peace or at war with China? For, if it is to be war, as Mr. Bruce says, he hims is the very man to promote it; but if it is to be peace, as the Foreign Office intimates, he is the very man who should not be allowed to remain where he is a single hour beyond the time when the communication for his recall can be placed in his hands. What matters it though he may be the brother of Lord Elgin himself? Or who, with any sense of public responsibility, cares whether he has relatives connected with the Administration or not? Is the character of a nation to be imperilled because it may be a delicate matter to remove an individual? Or are we to encounter all the risks of hostile operations against the most populous empire in the world simply because our Minister belongs to a particular family? Let the House of Commons look to it. Those who represent the country are now in full session assembled: it was not so when the first batch of Mr. Bruce's humiliating epistles was given to the public. The House of Commons has the case in its own hands, and it is bound to protect the honour and dignity of the country. This the House can do, without any need for censuring the conduct of Ministers. Indeed, there are, in the present Administration, gentlemen who never could make up their minds to offer any apology or defence for conduct like that to which we are alluding; and all the House has to do is to give such an expression of its feeling on this subject as will induce the Government to take steps for the recall of one who is totally unfitted for the grave responsibility of representing the British Crown, and who ought in reality to be impeached and punished for the disrepute and disaster he has entailed upon his country. We cannot, for a single hour, be guaranteed from war with China if Mr. Bruce remains at Shanghai; and our Legislature should remember the practice of the Romans, not to allow a praetor who had suffered defeat to remain at his post, believing him thereby to be totally incapable of judicious negotiation.—*Star*.

MR. BRUCE AND LORD JOHN RUSSELL.—The *Morning Advertiser* has

the following comments upon the late transactions in China:—"Unhappily for Great Britain, Mr. Bruce had an escorting fleet on his embassy of peace; unhappily for Mr. Bruce, he had the gallant Admiral Hope, to whom he could dictate the commencement of hostilities; and unhappily for Admiral Hope, he had to carry out the views of such an inexperienced, and, though long-bearded, in one sense, unfledged negotiator as Mr. Bruce." Whilst the *Morning Herald* severely censures the despatches of Lord John Russell, and considers him the "feeblest Minister who was ever intrusted with the direction of foreign affairs in this country." The *Herald* further states that the Chinese have been guilty of a base act of treachery, and that as we are not dealing with a Western people who can appreciate motives of humanity, in such a case the worst policy is that of submission.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—In a despatch, No. 32, of 23rd March, 1858, Sir John Bowring, the late Governor of Hong Kong, forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies' Ordinance No. 2, of 1858, intitled "An Ordinance for Licensing and Regulating the Sale of Prepared Opium," soliciting the approval of Her Majesty's Government for same. In so doing, the learned Knight remarks that, in 1845 and 1846, a system existed in Hong Kong similar to that existing in the Straits settlements, viz.: "Subject to certain limitation as to quantity, a monopoly was created of raw and prepared opium; and the revenue produced during these two years, when the population of the colony was only a fourth of the number it was in 1858, produced £4,118."

Sir John then goes on remarking, "In 1847 the monopoly system was abandoned upon grounds of which no official records remain satisfactorily accounting for the change, and in its lieu was substituted an issue of yearly licences." I do not go into the merits of Sir John's ordinance, and in alluding to it only wish to show if it cannot be satisfactorily accounted for why Sir John Bowring's predecessors should have abandoned a system of raising a revenue, which, even in 1846, was, considering the number of the population in that year and in 1858, more productive in 1846 than in the latter year. In 1846, the population was 22,533, and in 1858 near to 80,000. The opium revenue, in 1846, was £4,118; in 1858, according to Sir John's despatch, £7,500.

However that may be, it seems strange to me that Sir John Bowring, above all other men, should not have discovered grounds upon which the opium monopoly was abolished, considering that whilst a member of Parliament, previous to his appointment as Her Majesty's Consul for Canton, he was one, if not the most active member of the select committee on commercial relations with China, commonly called "Lord Sandon's," which committee, of course, produced a voluminous blue book, in the report on which, dated 12th July, 1847, the committee, and consequently also Sir John, say, as regards the colony of Hong Kong:—"In addition, however, to these natural and necessary disadvantages (?), it appears to have laboured under others (poor Hong Kong!) created by a system of monopolies and farms, and petty regulations particularly unsuited to its position and prejudicial to its progress." Sir John Francis Davis, the then governor, seems to have anticipated the wishes of this committee, because I find that he abolished the opium farm or monopoly on the 5th July, 1847—seven days previous to the committee's report—and substituting therefore the licence system.

Who would have thought it, that the freetrader, in 1847, should, for fiscal reasons, censure, in 1858, his predecessor for having adopted the views recommended by the committee eleven years previous? Yours respectfully, O.

City, February 7th, 1860.

Naval and Military.

THE CHINA EXPEDITION.

The Khersonese (Capt. Hurst) transport, No. 7, has sailed with, it is said, nearly 2,000 tons of war stores. Mr. R. Day, who served in the field train in the Crimea, proceeds by her. Lieut. Grant, who has been appointed to the Chesapeake, Lieut. Douglas, as Admiralty agent, and twelve naval cadets, also proceed by her. She is supplied with a disconnecting screw, which will only be made available in case of contrary winds or a calm.

The Thunder and Powerful made the passage to Cape de Verde in ten and twelve days respectively. The Centaur and Cockchafer were at Ascension on the 27th Dec.

Capt. Manners, of the 1st Royals, has been posted to the second battalion, and is ordered to join it at Hong Kong. Major Grantham, of the 23rd company of Royal Engineers, and Lieutenants Malcolm, Pritchard, Harrison, and Shire are also to proceed from India. Mr. Thomas Hunt has been appointed paymaster to the force of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers serving in China.

It has been announced from India that the following regiments proceed.

(* Supplied by Bengal, † by Madras, ‡ by Bombay.)

EUROPEAN TROOPS.

- † No. 7 Battery 14th Brigade Royal Artillery.
- * Cavalry (not detailed).
- † H. M. 1st (King's) Dragoon Guards—200 men and horses.
- † 23rd Company Royal Engineers.
- † A and K Companies Sappers and Miners.
- * H. M. 3rd (East Kent, or Buffs) Foot.
- * H. M. 6th (Royal 1st Warwickshire) Foot, 1st battalion.
- * H. M. 8th (King's) Foot, 1st battalion.
- † H. M. 31st (Huntingdonshire) Foot.
- * H. M. 37th (North Hampshire) Foot.
- † H. M. 44th (East Essex) Foot.
- † H. M. 56th (West Essex) Foot.
- * H. M. 60th (King's Royal) Rifle Corps, 1st battalion.
- † H. M. 66th (Berkshire) Foot.
- * H. M. 67th (South Hampshire) Foot.
- * H. M. 73rd Foot.

NATIVE TROOPS.

- † A Company 5th Battalion Artillery (Gondauze).
- † 1st Supplemental Company (Gondauze).
- * Irregular Cavalry (not detailed).
- * Five battalions Infantry, including 15th Regiment Punjab Infantry (each 800 strong).
- † 3rd Regiment N.I. (1,000 strong).
- † 5th " "

The 8th, 31st, and 73rd Regiments will be reinforced from Chatham—in all about 1,000 men—and, having been trained, will be able to take the field at once. The 8th Foot has been fourteen years in India, having embarked in 1846, and was about returning to England during the present year. The 73rd embarked in 1845, and has been fifteen years in India. The 31st Regiment arrived in India in 1853. The whole of these regiments experienced hard service during the rebellion of the native troops.

The details of the European Cavalry and Native Irregular Cavalry to be furnished by Bengal are not yet known. It is reported that Major-General Sir J. Michel, K.C.B., temporarily commanding the Malwa division, is to command the Bombay column. To secure uniformity of ammunition, the Native force is to be armed with the smooth-bore musket, such as is used by the regiments of Bengal and Madras N. I. now serving in China.

GENERAL ORDER BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

Camp Meerut, 20th December, 1859.

His Excellency the Governor-General issues this Notification for the information of the Bengal Native Army.

2. It is likely that an army will shortly be required from India for the Queen's service in China.

3. This army will be composed partly of European and partly of Native troops.

4. The European portion of it will consist of seven regiments of infantry (in addition to the two regiments recently sent to China), and some cavalry; but respecting this portion of the force, his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief will in due time issue the necessary directions.

5. The native portion of the army will consist in the first instance of five battalions of infantry, of which four will be selected from such Punjabee regiments as may volunteer for the services, and one from the Hindostanee regiments which may volunteer. Some irregular cavalry will also be sent.

6. The strength of the battalions will be 800 privates each, with the due proportion of native commissioned and non-commissioned officers, in eight companies.

7. Each man, whether belonging to a regiment volunteering collectively, or coming forward separately, will be required to sign or seal a paper declaring himself to be a volunteer. This precaution for securing individual willingness will be taken after the offer of a regiment, or of any man belonging to it, shall have been accepted by the Governor-General.

8. The period for which volunteers are now required is two years. If it should happen that the service in China extends beyond two years, any man who may wish to be relieved at the end of that term will be relieved.

9. Depots will be formed in India of regiments volunteering, to which men who do not proceed on foreign service will be attached; and the property left behind by the men, and any of their families, will be carefully looked after at these depots.

10. The native volunteer battalions proceeding to China will enjoy the established privileges of foreign service, viz.:

I.—The privilege of granting family money certificates.

II.—The nomination of heirs to family pension in case of their decease.

III.—Pay and full batta in addition to free rations. The full batta will be drawn from the date on which each man's offer of service is accepted.

IV.—Rations (gratis) on board ship, and on shore while on foreign service, and until re-landed in Bengal. The commissariat department will issue the rations, of which the cost will be defrayed by Government.

V.—On embarkation, haversacks, canteens, and hammocks, and a great-coat per man, at the public expense; the articles to be accounted for by quartermasters in the periodical returns.

VI.—Half-batta during leave of absence on medical certificate.

VII.—After the return of a regiment from foreign service, if in time of peace, a quadruple proportion of native officers and men will be entitled to furloughs, for periods in proportion to the distances of their homes, and with the privilege of half-batta during such furlough.

11. The native force will be armed with the smooth-bore musket, such as is used by the regiments of Bengal and Madras Native Infantry now serving in China; and in order that uniformity of ammunition may be preserved throughout the entire native force in that country, corps now armed with rifles will, before embarkation, have them exchanged for the smooth-bore musket.

12. Each volunteer regiment will have the following complement of European officers:—

A commandant.

A second in command.

An adjutant.

An interpreter and quartermaster.

A medical officer (surgeon or assistant-surgeon).

Eight (8) officers doing duty.

An apothecary.

13. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief is requested to issue such further subsidiary orders as may be necessary, respecting the formation of the force, European and native, proceeding to China.

R. J. H. BIRCH, Major-General, Secretary to the Government of India, with the Governor-General.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* announces that it is intended to form a naval brigade at Calcutta from the unemployed merchant seamen. On second lieutenant-colonels proceeding to China, the following remarks are made:—"We have heard it stated that the second lieutenant-colonels of the regiments proceeding to China are about being reduced to half-pay on their quitting the Indian establishment; and that it is in contemplation to allow regiments in India in future only one lieutenant-colonel. As regards the latter portion of the rumour, we have only to say that we doubt very much if four field officers be more than sufficient for a regiment serving in a climate where so many officers are obliged to be on leave for sanitary reasons, and where in many cases regiments are split up into wings and detachments. We do trust the question will be reconsidered before a step is taken which appears to be suggested by no consideration save one of indiscriminating economy. It so happens that some of the second lieutenant-colonels of regiments going to China are among the best officers of their rank in the army, and we hope they will not be taken from their respective corps just at the moment their presence with them is most to be desired."

In our issue of the 28th Nov. we made the following remarks:—"It appears that instructions have lately been issued from the War-office, placing the Queen's troops serving at Hong Kong on the colonial scale of allowances instead of the Indian. The privations and monotonous life of officers and troops destined to serve in that unhealthy colony entitle them at least to allowances equal to the Indian scale. Ceylon and other parts of India are perfect sanatoriums compared with Hong Kong; provisions, servants, &c., are also only about one-half the cost. This fact of course increases the injustice, and on what grounds the authorities at the War-office arrived at their conclusion we cannot conceive. Surely they could have obtained the evidence of gentlemen who had been resident there, competent to give an unbiased opinion on the subject."

Capt. S'adwell, R.N., has arrived from Hong Kong. He is the bearer of the ratifications of the treaty concluded between Great Britain and Japan. This officer was severely wounded in the attack on the forts of P'ihoo, and has come home on sick leave.

The distribution of the amount of prize-money awarded for the destruction of pirates in the China Seas, by her Majesty's ship *Comus*, between the 24th and 27th of August, 1856, has commenced. The following are the shares due to an individual in the several classes:—Commander, 185*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*; third class, 37*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.*; fourth, 23*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*; fifth, 13*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*; sixth, 11*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*; seventh, 7*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*; eighth, 3*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*; ninth, 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; tenth, 1*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*

The 4th company of Royal Engineers is ordered from India to England, with the exception of 20 men, who are ordered to proceed to Melbourne under the command of Captain Scratchley. The 11th and 21st companies are ordered from India to the Mauritius, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Brown, C.B., Lieutenants Gossett, Swetenham, Paterson, Lloyd, and Crozier. On the arrival of these companies the 22nd company will leave the Mauritius for England, under the command of Lieutenant W. B. Gossett.

The 2nd Battalion of the 24th Regiment (lately notorious in the riot at Aldershot), now at Cork, is under orders to proceed to the Mauritius, to relieve the service companies of the 61st Regiment, which have been on foreign service since 1845.

Colonel J. Clark Kennedy, C.B. (late of China), Assistant Quartermaster-General at Aldershot, has been appointed to succeed Colonel McMurdo as Commandant of the Military Train.

As the progress of the department engaged in the production of Sir William Armstrong's guns is a subject of special importance to the public, it may be interesting to learn that the manufacture of 12-pounder guns at Woolwich has been this week increased from 20, the late weekly ratio, to 45, 15 having been turned out on Tuesday and provided at the Royal Arsenal last, 15 on Wednesday, and an additional number of 15 was yesterday completed and proved fit for any amount of service. Arrangements are in progress for making a number of 25-pounders, which will be commenced as soon as the requisite implements are prepared.

The museum attached to the Royal Engineer establishment at Chatham has just been enriched by a number of very interesting specimens of firearms of all descriptions, captured in China, which have been deposited in the department devoted to those descriptions of objects. Most of the pieces are of very extraordinary design and character. Two enormous bamboo canes, each measuring upwards of 40 feet in length, which were likewise

brought from China, have also been placed in the museum at Brompton barracks.

General Sir De Lacy Evans has given notice, for an early day, of his intention to move an address to the queen, for the abolition of the system of sale and purchase of commissions, due regard being had to existing interests.

The *United Service Gazette* regrets to learn that Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Dundas is at present unwell. His supersession of Vice-Admiral Fanshawe is, we have reason to believe, determined on. The post to be vacated by Sir Richard Dundas will, it is said, be offered to Sir Michael Seymour, M.P. for Devonport; but with the present prospects of the Government it is not probable Sir Michael will accept it, and run the risk attending a new election.

Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, K.C.B., will succeed Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir F. W. Grey, K.C.B., as Commander-in-Chief of the Cape and West Coast of Africa station, and will shortly hoist his flag on board the *Forte*, 51, screw, at Sheerness, which ship has been commissioned for that service by Captain E. W. Turnour. Mr. Matless G. Autey, Paymaster, now serving in the *Racer*, is to be appointed Secretary to Sir Henry Keppel, and the Rev. J. Thompson (late of China) is to be chaplain.

The screw steam frigate *Euryalus*, 51, Capt. Tarleton, C.B., with his Royal Highness Prince Alfred, from the Mediterranean, is daily expected at Plymouth. The heads of departments have received instructions regarding the reception to be given to the Prince, who is expected to remain some days.

The following is the scale for engineers:—Vessels under 200 horse-power, 3 assistants; at 200 horse-power, and under 350 horse-power, 1 chief and 3 assistants; at 350 horse-power, and under 500 horse-power, 1 chief and 4 assistants; at 500 horse-power and upwards, 1 chief and 6 assistants.

The King of Sweden and Norway has awarded a medal to Commander Monagu O'Reilly, R.N., in acknowledgment of his services in heaving off the rocks, last October, in Gibraltar Bay, the Swedish corvette *Ornen* (Eagle), and the Admiralty have sent this decoration to the Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean for presentation.

One of the lanterns composing Mr. H. Ward's apparatus for marine signals called the "ocean marine telegraph," was again tested at Woolwich, in the presence of Commander Superintendent the Hon. Jas. R. Drummond, C.B. presence of Commodore-Superintendent the Hon. James R. Drummond, C.B. The Commodore expressed himself extremely gratified with the invention.

Capt. Moorsom died at his brother's house at Brighton. Captain Moorsom was within a few days of forty-four years of age. He entered the navy at fourteen. Although he obtained the "gold medal" of his year at the Naval College, he was not made lieutenant till seven years after he had served his full time as mate, and then his hope of further promotion appeared so small that he was frequently on the point of quitting the service. The invention of his "shell," however, brought him into notice. He served in the first Chinese war, and soon after the breaking out of that with Russia, being then a post-captain, he was appointed to the *Firebrand*, whose commander had been killed at the mouth of the Danube. Capt. Moorsom was a C.B., a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, and had the Order of the Medjidie, together with, of course, the Chinese, Crimean, and Turkish medals. He gave his invention of the "shell," or, more properly, "percussion fuse," to the Government, and it has been for some years adopted in the service. He wrote a treatise on the Manœuvring of Steam Fleets.

The Navy estimates for 1860-61 has been published. The grand total sum required to be voted for the ensuing financial year is stated to be £12,802,200, against £11,775,718, thus exhibiting a net increase of £1,026,482.

Two de-patch gunboats, named the *Pelican* and the *Steady*, were launched yesterday from the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. W. C. Miller and Son, Sifton-street, Liverpool. Their dimensions are: Length between perpendiculars, 145 feet; extreme breadth, 25 feet 4 inches; depth of hold, 13 feet; tonnage, 425 tons; draught of water when fully equipped, 9 feet 3 inches forward, and 11 feet 6 inches aft. The engines, of 80-horse power, will be supplied by Napier, of Glasgow. They are to carry each one 95-cwt. pivot-gun and four 24lb. carronades, and are to be rigged as three-masted schooners.

MUSKETS FOR THE CHINA EXPEDITION.—The *Morning Post* had an able article on the 9th, strongly deprecating the alleged intention of supplying the troops proceeding to China with the old smooth bore musket (brown Bess) instead of the Enfield or Minié rifle.

MEETING ON CHINA.—At a meeting held lately in Newcastle, under the auspices of the Foreign Affairs Association, for the purpose of "stopping the supplies" for the conduct of the Chinese war, a singular epistle, says the *Manchester Guardian*, was read from Sir W. C. Trevelyan, stating that the writer cordially joined with the association in deprecating another Chinese war, as being most impolitic and absolutely unjustifiable; for whatever was morally wrong could never be politically right, and must eventually bring disaster on those who pursued such a policy, as had unhappily been the case in China, from the first war in defence of smugglers down to this new project to avenge a disaster which was brought on ourselves by our own most unjustifiable and impolitic proceedings, in endeavouring to bully a nation into compliance with unreasonable demands. Like the case of the Indian mutiny, caused by the reckless and headstrong folly of the commander of the forces at Meerut, we had been led into this war by the worse than foolish, by the unjustifiable and dishonest proceedings of our merchants or political agents, and involved in the crime of inflicting a civil and a foreign war on one of the fairest portions of the globe, and on a very large portion of the human race, and that one of the most industrious and peaceful, whilst we Christians taught them to fight. We had now felt the fruit of our own lesson in the successful repulse of a treacherous attempt, under cover of an embassy, to introduce such a hostile force into the heart of the empire as might enable our rash and ill-advised ambassador to enforce his measures at the cannon's mouth—an argument truly worthy of a civilized and a Christian country. It was high time, the letter concluded, that the authors of these disasters should be brought to the bar of public opinion.

PROPOSED AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN CHINA.

A special meeting of the Board of Trade was held at the rooms yesterday afternoon, the President, E. S. Tobey, in the chair.

The President read a communication from Hon. William Appleton, suggesting the expediency of memorialising the President of the United States upon the subject of offering the mediation of this country to adjust the difficulties now existing between the English and French nations and the Chinese empire. He said:—

You are aware that in the year 1858 a treaty of amity and commerce was concluded between the Emperor of China and the United States, which has been ratified and duly exchanged. At about the same time treaties were made between the Emperor of China and England, France, and Russia. The ambassadors of England and France, while on their way to Peking, in armed ships, to consummate and exchange the treaties, were interrupted in their passage, which led to a collision between the ships of war and the Chinese forts. The result of this unfortunate event has caused a large naval and land force to be sent by France and England to China, and all the horrors of war may be anticipated. Can this be averted? Humanity, the best feelings of our nature, and our interest demand that an effort should be made. The treaty between the United States and China recognises such mediation. It is quite sure that the Chinese would be ready (with the presence in her seas of an overwhelming force of Europeans) to grant anything that the European allies would require, that they had the power to comply with. The Emperor of China might promise, and be able to carry into effect, under the mediation, that which he would be unable to do were the promise made under the presence of forces before Peking. Should this suggestion meet the views of the Board of Trade, and the President offer the mediation—it being successful—we should all rejoice in the feeling that our nation had acted the part of a peacemaker, to whom blessedness is promised. Mr. Beebe remarked that he cordially approved of the suggestions of Mr. Appleton, and begged to offer resolutions in accordance therewith, as follows, which were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, the ambassadors of England and of France, while on their way recently to Peking to exchange the treaties between their respective governments and the Emperor of China, were interrupted in their progress and accidentally or treacherously fired upon by certain Chinese forts; and whereas large naval forces have been despatched to the Celestial Empire to obtain redress for the alleged wrong—

Resolved—That the Government of this Board prepare a memorial to the President of the United States, respectfully suggesting that the tender to the three Powers above mentioned the mediation of the United States for the amicable adjustment of all pending difficulties; and, further, that the said memorial be intrusted to the Hon. William Appleton, with the request that he present the same, and make such statements touching the subject matter thereof as he shall deem proper.

Resolved—That the Secretary of the Board transmit to the Chamber of Commerce of New York and the Boards of Trade of Philadelphia and Baltimore, copies of the proceedings of this meeting. On the motion of Mr. James C. Converse, it was voted that the President and Secretary of the Board prepare and sign the memorial to the President of the United States.—*Boston Traveller*.

The *New York Herald* comments on the above:—"When our Commissioner to China, Mr. Reed, followed out his instructions and abstained from interfering in the late trouble, the *London Times* abused the American Commissioner and American policy, because we would not interfere to aid England. Now it turns out that Mr. Buchanan's policy was exactly right; and to it we owe the fact that we are not alone the first Power in China today, but we are in a position to mediate between the three belligerent Powers, and possibly prevent a war disastrous alike to England, to France, and to China. We learned by late advices that the Chinese Government contemplated appealing to our Minister, Mr. Ward, to obtain the mediation of the United States; and we think that the President ought to tender it to the three Governments, in this emergency, although we would not urge an intrusion of the general policy of non-interference so judiciously adopted by our Government."

PRESENTATIONS AT COURT.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN held her first levee this season on the 15th inst., at St. James's Palace. Amongst those presented the following were connected with China. Lieutenant-Colonel H. Hope Crenlock, on promotion and return from service in China, by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Wetherall; Colonel Clark Kennedy, on appointment as Colonel Commandant Military Train, by H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge; Rear-Admiral Sir Henry Keppel, K.C.B., on appointment to the command of the Cape of Good Hope and West Coast of Africa Station, by the Duke of Somerset; D. J. Macgowan, M.D., by the American Minister; Commander Michael C. Seymour, R.N., on promotion and return from service in China, by his uncle, Rear-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour; Sir John F. Davis, K.C.B., and Mr. Edgar Bowring were also present.

ORGAN FOR HONG KONG CATHEDRAL.—This beautiful instrument, lately completed by Messrs. Bryceson and Son for the Cathedral at Victoria, has been shipped on board the *Robin Hood*, which sailed on the 9th. Mr. C. F. Sangster, the organist, has taken his passage by the same vessel.

TENTS FOR INDIA AND CHINA.—Mr. George Turner, of Northfleet, has lately taken out a patent for new descriptions of tents for the army when in the field. From what we can judge through reading Mr. Turner's pamphlet, we should most decidedly consider his military tents a very great improvement upon the old ones in the Ordnance store at Hong Kong; and now that it appears the expeditionary force is to be put under canvas until operations are commenced, we do trust the military authorities will see to his improvements.

POSTAGE TO ALEXANDRIA, CAIRO, AND SUZ.—A Treasury warrant is published in the *Gazette*, extending the regulations previously in force respecting books, publications, or works of literature and art, to the transmission of packages between any part of the United Kingdom and the British post-offices at Alexandria, Cairo, and Suez. On all such packets, not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, there is to be one uniform rate of 3d., and a progressive rate where the weight shall exceed 4 oz. Communications which do not come within the definition above stated will be charged with postage as letters.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Suggestions for the insertion of information required by our subscribers will have due attention and acknowledgment.

The "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH" is published on the evening of the day of delivery of the Mails.

All applications for Advertisements, Subscriptions, and general business of the Paper to be addressed to the Manager, and not to the Editor. Post-office orders to be made payable at the Strand Office, to MORTIMER WRIGHT.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1860.

THE NEW PORTS OF JAPAN.

We are gradually becoming acquainted with all the ports of Japan. Nagasaki is an old acquaintance; Simoda has been tried and found wanting; Hakodadi promises to be of more use to American whalers than to anybody else. Intelligence comes by every mail from Kanagawa, the port of the great metropolis of Japan, Yedo. Two more claim our attention—Ne-e-gata and Fiogo; the former was to have been open for traffic on the 1st of January last, the latter is to be opened in 1863. We are unable as yet to lay before our readers much information respecting these two ports. Ne-e-gata was so little known that the third article of the Treaty of Yedo stipulated that if that harbour should be found unsuitable, another convenient port on the west coast of Japan should be substituted for it. It now appears to be "unsuitable," chiefly owing to a bar at its mouth. Consequently Mr. Alcock, our Consul-General, has issued a notification to the effect that further examination must be made of some adjacent harbour, and he has notified that no port will be opened on the west coast to British trade without due notice. We observe that the estuary of Ne-e-gata receives the waters of the Kasabagama and the Sinanogama, which empty into the Sea of Japan by three mouths. This is in the province of Netsingo, in which are situated the cities of Takata, Naga-oka, Simbota, Murakami, Itsu-mo-saki, and Moromats. The province produces lead, lacker, wax, white mustard, various cotton fabrics, white hares, sturgeon, and other fish, deal and larch timber. Silk, taffetas, oils, paper, gold, silver, lead and sulphur are among the productions of the adjacent provinces. We shall be glad to hear that our hydrographers have discovered some easily accessible port on that side of the coast opposite to Corea.

As regards Fiogo, we have more assurance. It is accessible, and though in itself of little moment, it is of vast importance as the port of the two most important cities in the empire, Osaka and Miako, the latter being, as is well known, the capital of the spiritual emperor. Fiogo is the first point which the Dutch factors make on passing from Kusun to Nippon. It sometimes takes eight days or more to reach Fiogo from Simonoseki, as voyagers seldom sail by night. It is about the size of Nagasaki. Osaka, the great mart of Japan, is situated about thirteen Japanese leagues further. This is one of the five imperial cities, and is situated in a fruitful plain, and on the banks of a navigable river. In some respects it rivals Yedo. One cannot predict which will prove the greatest port—Kanagawa or Fiogo. Osaka is noted as the chief seat of Japanese industry. Here they refine copper, coin money, cast bronze, print books, weave the richest stuffs with gold and silver flowers, prepare the best and scarcest dyes, produce the most artificial carving, and manufacture all sorts of musical instruments. The pictures of Osaka are noted, as are also the Japanese cabinets and lacquered ware. All things wrought in gold and other metals, particularly in steel; also the richest dresses; all sorts of toys, puppets moving their heads of themselves; in short, there is nothing from abroad that is not or cannot be imitated in that city. It is the seat of pleasure for wealthy natives; amusements in every form are here perfected. For luxury and sensual indulgence its inhabitants are particularly noted. Not far off is the literary and religious city of Miako. With two such cities, the port of Fiogo cannot fail to prove a place of great trade. We shall aim to make our readers acquainted with the various regions recently opened to the enterprise of our merchants in China and Japan—a task that shall take us from Hainan to Formosa and Quelpart, from Hankow to Manchuria, fields of great interest to all

classes. It is our design, in a word, to make our Journals repositories of information on those parts of the world which come within our province, they will thus be found worth filing away for reference. Not current events and mercantile affairs alone, but the geography, manners and customs. Our opportunities for collecting information are ample—having correspondents in this country, on the Continent, and in all parts East of India.

MR. BRUCE'S DESPATCHES.

In our last impression we gave a summary of correspondence with Mr. Bruce, laid before the House on the 27th ult. We now give that which was produced on the 7th inst., and the comments of the press on the same. The most extraordinary part is that portion of Lord John Russell's letter which instructs Mr. Bruce to procure an apology, or an indemnity, from the Chinese Government. This is the finishing stroke.

The first is a letter from Mr. Bruce to Lord Malmesbury, enclosing copies of letters which he had received from Sir Charles Van Straubenzee, and stating that in consequence he had addressed Lord Canning, requesting him to reinforce the garrison of Canton. The letters from Sir Charles Van Straubenzee ask Mr. Bruce whether war may be considered as having commenced with China, or whether matters are to continue as at present at Canton so long as the Chinese remain in a passive state; and also recommends that two troop steamships should be sent to India or Ceylon for reinforcements. Mr. Bruce, in his reply, on 31st July, says:—

"As far as I can judge from a communication that has been received by M. de Bourboulon from Ho, the Imperial Commissioner, the Chinese Government has no intention of disturbing us at the ports. The letter treats the collision at the mouth of the river as unintentional on both sides, and as proceeding from our ignorance of the fact that preparations had been made at another place to receive us; and he even goes so far as to suggest that we had better return to the north, as we shall be received with due courtesy. I have no doubt that Mr. Ward, the American Minister, will bring down some proposals for accommodation.

"I do not think, therefore, that orders will be sent from Peking to commence at Canton the hostile proceedings of last year, unless we were to assume the offensive, and in that case a large force would be required; for the blow, if struck at all, must be struck in the north, and we know that during the last year a large force has been accumulated, consisting in part of men who show considerable skill in the management of artillery, whatever may be their value as soldiers in the field. As my object is not to fetter the action of her Majesty's Government, my language to the Chinese authorities will continue to be, that I consider my mission to Peking at an end for the present, and that I have referred home for fresh instructions.

"But I shall avoid, as much as possible, doing or saying anything from which the Chinese may infer that I consider what has passed in the north as an act of war, or as necessarily leading to a rupture of friendly relations; and, moreover, if they were to make a proper apology, and consent to receive me on becoming terms at Peking, I should not decline the overture: though I do not anticipate, after what has taken place, that they will make any proposal which I could accept as satisfactory.

"I do not think, therefore, that it would be desirable to make preparations in the south with a view to a campaign in the north, before knowing what her Majesty's Government will determine on that point; but it is obvious that we ought to be prepared for any contingency that may happen in Canton or its neighbourhood; and as your Excellency seems to think that your garrison requires to be reinforced, I will address his Excellency the Governor-General of India on the subject, and forward copies of your letters to Admiral Hope, with whom it rests to dispose of the transports alluded to."

The next letter is from Mr. Bruce to Lord Canning, reporting the Peiho catastrophe, and asking for a European regiment to be sent at once. The other two despatches are from Lord John Russell to Mr. Bruce, and we may call attention to the fourth paragraph in the first one, as coinciding with the opinion expressed in our issue of 17th October, which was as follows:—"Every expedient should have been resorted to, to avoid a collision, and waiting a reply from Tientsin was about the least he should have done. Supposing he had gained Peking by force of arms, could it be reasonably expected that the Emperor would, in an amicable manner, ratify a treaty after such proceedings?" This is the point on which the whole question should turn, and that our legislators should base their inquiry and discussion on, in the first place, and secondly to Mr. Bruce's subsequent action; and on this latter point, the correspondence with General van Straubenzee bears out the condemnation we passed on his supineness—and apparent incompetency to act after the great and unexpected defeat at the Peiho—in our issue of the 27th Sept. We then pointed out the almost insanity of allowing the revenue derived from our trade to fall into the hands of the Chinese, and thus provide them with the means of maintaining a belligerent attitude;—far better to have nipped their resources then, and avoided the now imminent rupture. The *Times*, in its last leader on this subject, which we subjoin, agrees with us

on Mr. Bruce's extraordinary opinions subsequent to the Peiho affair. There is no doubt that the leading journal adopted the most popular view on the conduct of the Chinese, and certainly to all persons not versed in their general character—a knowledge of which can only be obtained by a residence in China, and even then only by making it a study—their view of the case is the one calculated to have the most supporters. The public of course cannot be expected to examine the question for themselves, in all its minutiae, and form their own opinion. We have before stated that we are no apologists for the Chinese, but in this last rupture with them we are decidedly in the wrong through the indiscreet and rash acts of our plenipotentiary; and now Parliament is assembled, we do trust that the discussion will lead to the conviction that Mr. Bruce should be recalled and replaced by a known diplomatist unbiassed by any previous intimate connection with the affair, and prepared to treat the subject on his arrival in China accordingly. It cannot be expected that Mr. Bruce will do otherwise than lead us into hostilities.

The following are the despatches of Lord John Russell alluded to above:—

Foreign-office, Oct. 29, 1859.

"From the terms of your despatch of the 10th August, I infer that at the time when you wrote it you thought it not improbable that the Chinese Government might shortly address to you some communication, with the view of inviting you to proceed to Peking for the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty of Tientsin.

"If any such proposal has been made to you, and if it be still unanswered when you receive this despatch, you will state in reply that you are not authorised to entertain it until the Chinese Government shall have made a formal apology for the act of the troops who fired on her Britannic Majesty's ships of war from the Takoo forts in June last.

"You will add, that her Majesty's Government require that, when you go to Peking for the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty, you shall proceed up the Peiho river to Tientsin in a British vessel, and that provision be made by the Chinese authorities for the conveyance of yourself and your suite with due honour from Tientsin to Peking.

"Should the assurances given to you by the Chinese Government on these heads be satisfactory, you will make arrangements for proceeding to Peking at the earliest period at which it may be safe and convenient for you to undertake the voyage. It will be proper that a naval force should accompany you to the mouth of the Peiho, and directions to that effect will be forwarded to Admiral Hope.

"Should you experience any unbecoming treatment, either at Peking, or on your journey to or from the capital, you will return to the Gulf, and place the matter in the hands of the naval Commander-in-Chief.

"You will take an early opportunity of apprising the ministers of the Emperor of China that, in consequence of the attempt made to obstruct your passage to Peking in June last, when you were proceeding thither to exchange the ratifications of the treaty of Tientsin, her Majesty's Government consider that the understanding entered into between the Earl of Elgin and the Imperial Commissioners Kweiliang and Hwashana, with respect to the residence of the British Minister in China, is at an end, and that it rests henceforward exclusively with her Majesty, by the terms of Article II. of the treaty of Tientsin, to decide, whether or not she shall instruct her Minister to take up his abode permanently at Peking.

"If, however, no pacific overtures shall have been addressed to you by the Chinese Government before the time when this despatch reaches you, you will, immediately on its receipt, communicate to the Prime Minister of the Emperor the demands of her Majesty's Government, as stated above, and inform him that, unless, within a period of 30 days from the date of your communication, you receive from him a reply conveying to you the Emperor's unqualified assent to these demands, the British naval and military authorities will proceed to adopt such measures as they may deem advisable for the purpose of compelling the Emperor of China to observe the engagements contracted for him by his plenipotentiaries at Tientsin, and approved by his Imperial edict of July, 1858.

"On grounds of humanity, her Majesty's Government would be desirous, if possible, to avoid the necessity of having to undertake military operations on a grand scale against the capital of the Chinese empire. They will learn, therefore, with satisfaction, that the measures which I have indicated have had the desired effect, and induced the Chinese Emperor to accede to the moderate terms which by this dispatch you are instructed to offer for his acceptance.

"It is necessary, however, to be prepared for a different result, and it is the intention of her Majesty's Government to make such arrangements as will enable a considerable military force to be despatched from the South with the change of the monsoon, if it should be then requisite to undertake operations on land.

"I have only to add that it is not the intention of her Majesty's Government that you should consider yourself to be bound by your instructions to insist on a personal interview with the Emperor. It is essential that you should correspond on terms of equality with the chief officers of the empire, and that you should refuse to submit to any degrading ceremonial, either on the occasion of an audience with the Emperor, or on any other; but you will be guided by your own discretion, and in some degree by the practice of the representatives of other great Western Powers, in determining whether or not you will press the demand that the Emperor of China shall receive you in the only manner in which you could consent to be received, namely, with the forms which on such occasions are customary in the West.

Foreign Office, Nov. 10, 1859.

"Sir,—Since my despatch of the 29th ultimo was written, I have received and laid before the Queen your despatch of the 3rd September.

"It appears by this despatch and its enclosures, that the Emperor of China now fully sanctions the resistance made by the forts at Takoo to the passage of her Majesty's ships up the river Peiho.

"He states that Takoo was fortified by his command, and that the

envoys of the different nations were told by Kweiliang and Hwashana, at Shanghai, that Takoo was so fortified, and that they must go round by Peh-tang.

"Now, although the denial of a passage to the capital by the usual and most convenient route would have been evidence of an unfriendly disposition, yet it was a matter upon which you might have remonstrated and negotiated, without having recourse to force to clear the passage.

"You say, however, with regard to these alleged warnings:—'These assertions are directly contrary to the truth, though I think it not improbable the commissioners may have represented the matter in this light to the Emperor.' Neither in the letters that passed between the commissioners and the envoys, nor during the interviews Mr. Ward had with them, was a word said of defences at Takoo, nor was any allusion made to Peh-tang.

"Thus it appears that neither you nor M. Bourboulon received any warning; nay, when the Admiral arrived at the mouth of the Peiho, so far from having an intimation, from authority, that the passage of the envoys up the Peiho was to be resisted, he was assured that the fortifications were made by the militia of the country as a defence against pirates, and that a passage should be opened to allow of vessels proceeding by the river.

"The soldiers at the forts had, no doubt, ascertained the correct range of the palisades and stakes where the French and British vessels were certain to be stopped, and thus they had all the benefit of a prepared ambushade.

"Whether the Emperor was cognizant of this act, or whether it was directed by his officers, it is an outrage, for which the Chinese Government must be accounted responsible.

"Unless, therefore, the most ample apology should be promptly made, and the other demands specified in my previous despatch shall be complied with, you are instructed to state that a large pecuniary indemnity will be demanded by her Majesty's Government from that of China."

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS.

The Emperor of China had little doubt about our Leing at war Lord John Russell had still less; but as for the officers immediately concerned and present on the spot, they were completely embarrassed, and could not tell how to take the matter. The first who moves is Sir Charles Van Straubenzee, commander of the garrison of Canton. He learns, "through the public press," what has occurred at the Peiho, and, without waiting for more official intelligence, discreetly puts himself into communication with Mr. Bruce. He can perfectly understand that even the battle of the Peiho may possibly, as affairs go in China, be considered as no substantial breach of the peace, and he is prepared, therefore, so long as the Chinese "remain in a passive state," to proceed as usual. All he asks for is a battalion or two by way of provision against emergencies. Mr. Bruce replies to these inquiries in a most pacific and magnanimous strain. He is ready to overlook all that has occurred, and is particularly anxious, indeed, to repudiate the attitude of an offended party; and he intimates that if the Chinese Government would but offer a proper apology, and consent to receive him at Peking on suitable terms, he would proceed on his mission, all collisions and conflicts to the contrary notwithstanding. Our fleet was so encumbered with the wounded at this very moment, that steamers could not be spared for the transport of troops, and all the kingdoms of the East were ringing with the news of our disaster, but Mr. Bruce was still ready to assume that nothing particular had happened if the Chinese should be of the same way of thinking. He remembered, no doubt, the great controversy of 1857, when it cost us a general election to determine a question of this very kind, and he was anxious "not to fetter the action of her Majesty's Government," which might or might not regard the destruction of half-a-dozen men-of-war and 500 lives as an act of hostility on the part of the Chinese. But this philosophic serenity was rudely disturbed by Lord John Russell's despatch. We now understand, therefore, what were the "moderate demands" to which allusion was made in the Royal Speech, and we confess that, as far as the conditions themselves are concerned, they deserve the character ascribed to them. Less could hardly be exacted in reparation of so deliberate an injury. There is evidence to prove that the Chinese expected our flotilla at the mouth of the Peiho; that, instead of warning us off, they desired to entrap us into the ambushade they had prepared; and that all the incidents of the conflict were the results of forethought and scheming. We are free to own that we admire the language of Lord John in 1859 considerably more than his language two years earlier. There is nothing to be gained in such matters by vacillation or connivance. The Chinese, with all their barbarism, are quite astute enough to comprehend their position, nor do we see any evidence of ignorance or incapacity on the part of their Government.—*Times*.

It is important to remark in what light Mr. Bruce regarded the political consequences of the attack on our gunboats a few days after the event. Writing to General Straubenzee, on the 31st of July, he states that if the Chinese were to offer him an apology, and consent to receive him on proper terms at Peking, he should not decline the overture. Mr. Bruce thinks the Chinese Commissioners deceived the Emperor. However this may be, the Chinese Government must be held responsible for the act of its officers, and Lord John Russell therefore adds to his former instructions the direction to state to the Imperial authorities that, unless the most ample apology shall be promptly made, and all the demands already described shall be complied with, a large pecuniary indemnity will be demanded of China. There is nothing immoderate in these requirements, nothing which indicates the least desire to push matters to extremities. Firmness and a due regard for the dignity of this country are combined with humane consideration for the Chinese people. If the Court of Peking were not the blindest and most infatuated in the world, we might safely reckon on its prompt acceptance of the terms proposed.—*Daily News*.

Apology: if not apology, indemnity; if not indemnity, war. Such is, at this hour, the exact position of the Chinese question. The further official correspondence with Mr. Bruce, which we published on Wednesday, reveals the policy our Cabinet Councilors have resolved to adopt; and while these instructions do not alter our opinion that the Government has no wish to promote hostilities with China, they are yet of such a nature as to intimate that war may become inevitable, and we suppose it is for that reason that additional papers are given to the House from time to time, although the negotiations to which they refer are incomplete. It is, we think, time to make an appeal in this matter to Lord John Russell and other members of the Cabinet; and that appeal should be serious, earnest, and emphatic. There are the three links in the new chain of complication—apology, in-

demnity, war. It is war if not indemnity; it is indemnity if apology be not tendered.—*Star*.

Though Mr. Bruce could not be unacquainted with these characteristics of Chinese diplomatists, he seems to have inferred from all the antecedents of the Peiho massacre that the Manchou Emperor and his courtiers had been guilty for once of sincerity in their negotiations. For coming to this conclusion even Metternich or Talleyrand would have pronounced him excusable. The Court of Peking had persevered so long in a pacific attitude, and had so much to lose and so little to gain by a fresh rupture with England, that a wanton breach of the peace of nations could hardly be looked for. When it had occurred, however, no immediate advantage of the rash and imprudent act could be taken by our representatives on the spot. Contrary to the maxims of that policy which should always be pursued in dealing with Asiatics, we had omitted to keep ready at hand troops sufficient to force their way into the capital, and extort at the bayonet's point the reparation which the Manchous invariably deny to justice. So circumstanced there was only one prudent course in which Mr. Bruce could proceed, and that he adopted. He threw no impediments in the way of a pacific solution of the difficulty, supposing the Chinese Government should seem inclined to pursue that course: neither did he threaten it with hostilities, but merely made a dignified statement to the effect that, under the circumstances which had arisen, he must apply for instructions from home. Meanwhile Canton, the southern capital, held in check by a very small garrison, might at any moment rouse its whole population against the handful of foreign soldiers and exterminate them. This probability presented itself to the somewhat opaque mind of General Van Straubenzee, who, in the complications which had arisen, wisely applied for instructions to Mr. Bruce.—*Daily Telegraph*.

MR. TARRANT'S CASE.—It is expected that this gentleman's imprisonment will be brought forward in Parliament in a few days. Nothing further has been elicited from the Colonial Office.

SINGAPORE.—The movement for placing this settlement under the Home Government is, at present, in statu quo.

CHINA AND JAPAN.—On the 7th inst. Mr. Laurence Oliphant delivered a lecture to the Philosophic and Literary Society at Leeds on "The Present State of our Relations with China and Japan." With reference to the China question, the lecturer remarked,—"There are one or two points upon which erroneous impressions seem to exist, which it would be desirable to remove. The first of these is, that the Chinese are never to be depended upon, and consistently break all treaty engagements. If this be really the case, it is manifestly absurd to make treaties with them, much more absurd to go to war to enforce these treaties. But I do not think that this view of the faithlessness of the Chinese character is borne out by the facts of the history of their intercourse with us. I believe that an impartial investigation into the circumstances connected with the various disputes which have arisen between our authorities and those of the Chinese Government, from the earliest periods of our intercourse with them, will show us that they have, as a general rule, been as little to blame, as we have, and without charging the Chinese with gross breaches of faith on the one hand, or our own authorities with culpable mismanagement on the other, we can perfectly account for these unfortunate misunderstandings when we take into consideration the total dissimilarity of the civilization, institutions, traditions, and race of the two nations thus brought into close and intimate contact with each other. It is difficult to say which would in the long run be most disastrous to our interests in that empire—a system of incessant and violent retaliation, or of consistent and unresenting submission to insult. It would appear that the happy medium consists in the moral pressure which a skillful and judicious diplomacy might exert, resting, however, upon a sufficient material force in reserve in case of need. Regret may be felt that the delicate questions involved in the right of a British Minister at Peking were not settled by a visit by Lord Elgin to the capital immediately after the negotiation of the Treaty of Tientsin. Circumstances, however, over which he had no control occurred to render it impossible for him to carry out the intention which he originally entertained of doing so, and thus it was left to Mr. Bruce to make the attempt under much less favourable conditions. Unfortunately, in making that attempt, our arms sustained a defeat, and the point upon which public opinion is at this juncture somewhat divided is as to the propriety of undertaking hostile measures against China with a view of retrieving the position in that country which we have lost, and of enforcing the rights acquired in the treaty. Now, with reference to this latter point, I do not believe that the Chinese Government ever intended to deny our right of visiting the capital. The fact that they permitted the American Minister, who had no treaty right, to go there, proves this. In other words, they fully intended to keep the treaty, but, unfortunately, their ideas of how it was to be kept, differed materially from ours. With a people so ignorant and prejudiced as the Chinese, it is very doubtful now whether they will accept the alternative which is to be presented to them of making an apology, and receiving our Minister in a manner befitting his rank and the country he represents. It is possible, however, that they will be wise in time, and one good effect of sending out a much larger force than the exigencies of the case require may be to frighten them into good behaviour, and thus render further hostilities unnecessary. But if their recent success encourages them in their pride and obstinacy, it will be necessary to teach them by force, not that treaties are to be respected—of that they are perfectly aware—but that as a nation we are upon a footing of perfect equality with them, and entitled to consideration as such." The large room of the Stock Exchange was engaged for the lecture, as the hall of the Philosophical Society was incapable of accommodating the large audience.

SAN FRANCISCO AND JAPAN.—It is a subject of no little gratification that the port of San Francisco is rapidly becoming, if not already established as, the principal trading city between the civilised world and the long hermetically sealed Japanese empire. Already a most lucrative business has sprung up between us, and we justly deem ourselves the most favoured medium of commercial intercourse with Japan. No other city in the world, for the space of over two hundred years, has done so much immediate business with the Japanese as San Francisco. The growing and monetary importance of the Pacific coast, the influx of Chinese, with whom the people of Japan have ever maintained intimate commercial relations, our geographical

position in relation to the Japanese empire, and other like arguments, served to open the eyes of the government to the importance of this subject. Already several cargoes of the goods manufactured by these almost unknown people have reached our shores, and been disposed of at handsome profits; and there is no reason to doubt that the trade thus auspiciously opened will be greatly increased. Japan possesses many articles of the first importance which we greatly need, and we boast a great deal that is acceptable to their markets. Our intercourse is still in the bud of promise; it remains with us to bring it to full fruition. The arrival last night of two vessels from Japan—one laden with valuable and elegant goods—will give a tolerable idea of the already rapidly increasing commerce between San Francisco and that empire. The exciting news brought by the bark Onward is not aggravated by the intelligence received by the schooner Page. It is nevertheless clear that another and still more formidable expedition than that of Commodore Perry should at once be fitted out by our government. The Japanese, like the Chinese, regard us as barbarians; and, from the impunity of their former conduct towards the Portuguese and Dutch, evidently rank all other Christian nations upon a like footing. This disposition to underrate our power must be checked at all hazards. We are accredited as the key to the Japanese empire, and it will never do to let it slip from our grasp, or show ourselves unable to open and keep open the long-locked gates of Japanese exclusiveness.—*San Francisco Herald*.

THE CHINESE IN AUSTRALIA.—It is to the Chinese that the greatest of all the recent gold discoveries is due. The immigration-tax drove them to a surreptitious mode of entering the colony; and landing in Guichen Bay, in South Australia, and taking a course thence over the frontier across the Grampian ranges, they came upon a deposit of marvellous richness in the neighbourhood of Mount Ararat. In one of their first encampments, while picking up the roots of grass and prying for gold, they found the celebrated "Chinaman's hole," which yielded 3,000 ounces in a few hours. This led to the greatest "rush" which had ever been known at the gold-fields, for 60,000 people congregated there in a few weeks, and before a month had elapsed an immense town was systematically laid out, and shops, hotels, and restaurants arose, like the mystic trees of Indian jugglers; these were quickly followed by theatres, billiard and bagatelle-rooms, a daily mail, and a daily newspaper. Thus, within the space of two months, a wild mountain gorge was converted into a teeming city, where frontages were nearly as valuable as in the heart of London. It is believed that the golden "lead" is traceable all the way from Ararat to Avoca, a distance of sixty miles, through a country flanked by auriferous ranges.—*Australian and New Zealand Gazette*.

NEW REGULATIONS OF TRADE WITH JAPAN.

The *London Gazette* of the 10th inst. contains an Order in Council on this subject revoking that of the 3d of March, 1859, and laying down new rules for the regulation of such trade, which order is not to come into force until the day of its reception by the consul-general in Japan. The new order declares what construction shall be given to the word consul, and other terms which it may be requisite to use; that consuls shall have power to enforce treaties and establish regulations; that such regulations shall receive proper publicity, and penalties inflicted for infringing them, also setting forth the mode of proceeding in cases of violation of the treaty concluded with Japan; that the consuls shall take cognisance of offences other than those relating to the observance of treaties, and directs what penalties shall be inflicted in such cases; that the decisions of subordinate consular officers may be revised, and directing the manner of doing this; that appeals may be made in such cases; that in case of the escape of offenders from one consular district to another, they may be proceeded against in such latter district; that consuls are empowered, subject to appeal, to hear civil suits between British subjects in Japan and Japanese, or subjects of foreign states, notice to appeal to the consul-general to be given to the consul within fifteen days after decision; that consuls may also hear civil cases between British subjects, subject to an appeal to the consul-general, or in cases of importance to the Supreme Court of Hong-Kong; that it shall be lawful for consuls to summon assessors to assist them in their proceedings, and in case of their dissenting appeal may be made to the consul-general; that proceedings may be taken by distress or imprisonment to enforce their decisions; that in case of appeals no fresh evidence shall be laid before the consul-general unless fresh facts essential to be heard be brought forward; that in the examination of witnesses on oath it shall be done in such manner as such witnesses declare to be binding on their consciences; that British subjects being convicted of perjury in such suits may be punished; that suits may be settled by agreement or arbitration; that for crimes committed British subjects may be tried, and the mode of procedure is explained; that assessors may be summoned by consuls in such cases; that consuls may award deportations on second convictions, or in certain cases in first convictions, and consuls may require British subjects to give security to keep the peace; that persons sentenced may be sent to Hong-Kong for imprisonment, with other regulations respecting offences; the minutes of proceedings before consuls be drawn up and preserved; that trade of British subjects with Japan contrary to treaty is unlawful and punishable, and rules laid down in such cases; that consuls may grant probate and administer to intestate estates; and other necessary powers are given to consuls.

COOLIE EMIGRATION TO THE WEST INDIES.

In a late number we gave the regulations laid down by Mr. J. G. Austin, the Government Emigration Agent for the guidance of the Chinese desiring to emigrate to the West Indies. We now subjoin the "Articles of Agreement" in full:—

Articles of Agreement, made this _____ day of _____, in the year of the Christian Era _____, being the _____ day of the _____ month of the _____ year of the reign of Hienfung, according to the Chinese Imperial Calendar, between [A], native of China, of the one part, and John Gardiner Austin, special agent of the British Government for the regulating and encouragement of emigration from China to the British West Indies, of the other part, as follows:—The said A, in consideration of the covenants

and stipulations hereinafter entered into by the said J. G. Austin, doth hereby promise and agree to and with the said J. G. Austin, his executors, administrators, and assigns, in manner and form following, that is to say:—

1. That he, the said A, shall and will, so soon as he shall be required by the said J. G. Austin, embark on board the British ship [B], now lying at anchor and bound for the colony of British Guiana, and remain on board the said ship henceforward until she proceeds to sea, and shall then proceed as a passenger on board the said ship to British Guiana aforesaid, for the purpose of carrying out the stipulations hereinafter contained on the part of the said A.

2. That the said A shall and will from time to time, and at all times during the term of five years, to be computed from the day of the date of the arrival of the said ship B in the said colony of British Guiana, well, faithfully, and diligently, and according to the best of his skill and ability, work and serve as an agricultural labourer in the said colony of British Guiana, according to the provisions hereinafter contained.

3. That the said A shall and will work as such labourer as aforesaid for the space of seven hours and a half of each day during the aforesaid term of five years, on such estate as may be pointed out by the Governor of the said colony of British Guiana, with a reservation of not less than five days to be set apart during each year as holidays at the China New Year by the said Governor, and of every Sabbath day. And in consideration of the agreement herein contained on the part of the said A the said J. G. Austin hereby promises and agrees to and with the said A in manner following that is to say:—

4. That the said J. G. Austin shall provide the said A with a free passage to the said colony of British Guiana, and shall supply him gratuitously with such food and clothing as may be necessary for the voyage.

5. That so long as the said A shall continue and be employed as such agricultural labourer as aforesaid, and perform the agreements on his part hereinbefore contained, he the said J. G. Austin shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid to the said A wages at the rate of four dollars per calendar month, and shall provide or cause to be provided for the said A during the same service, food, house, garden ground, and medical attendance, all free of expense to the said A. Provided always, and it is hereby agreed, that it shall be at the option of the said A, at any time within twelve months of his arrival in the said colony of British Guiana, to elect to be paid for his services by the task, in the same way as all labourers not under special contract for service for terms of years in the said colony; and that in the event of the said A electing to be paid as last hereinbefore mentioned, then and in such case the said A shall not be entitled to receive food, but house, garden ground, and medical attendance shall still be furnished to him free of charge.

6. That the said J. G. Austin shall, on demand of the said A, so soon as he shall embark on board the said ship B for the purpose of carrying out the terms of this agreement, make an advance on account of wages to the said A to the extent of dollars, shall pay or cause to be paid monthly to the assigns or nominees of the said A in China, one part of the wages to be earned by the said A in the said colony of British Guiana, the first payment to be made on the day of the date of the embarkation of the said A on board the said ship B. Provided always and it is hereby agreed that any sum so advanced to the said A as aforesaid shall be stopped or deducted out of the wages to be earned by the said A, at the rate of one dollar per month, and that any payments so made as aforesaid monthly to the assigns or nominees of the said A in China, shall be stopped or deducted in equal amounts monthly from the wages to be earned by the said A.

7. That the said A shall be at liberty to determine this agreement at the expiration of the first or any subsequent year of its subsistence, upon payment of a sum of money equal to the cost of his passage from China to the said colony of British Guiana, namely, seventy-five dollars, subject to a deduction of one-fifth of the said amount for and in respect of each year during which the said A shall have served as such agricultural labourer as aforesaid, under the terms of this agreement.

8. That the said J. G. Austin shall provide or cause to be provided for the said A, during such period as he continue to serve under the terms of this agreement, with the means of corresponding monthly, free of expense, with his relatives in China, and of remitting money to them.

(Signed)
(Signed)

This done in duplicate, each of the parties aforesaid retaining one copy, at _____, on the _____ day of _____, in the year of our Lord 18____, in the presence of the undersigned, who declare that this contract has been signed willingly and with full knowledge of its contents by the said _____

Emigration Officer.

Received an advance of twenty dollars on account of wages, and a gratuity of _____ dollars for wife and _____ children.

SIR JOHN BOWRING IN PARIS.

Sir John Bowring had an interview with the Emperor, and, at a meeting of the society of political economists at which he was present, was requested by the chairman (M. Passy) to give an account of the results of the free-trade policy of Great Britain as they have operated on the social, agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial interests of the State. Sir John brought forward some striking facts, exhibiting the enormous increase of the national wealth, the advance of wages in all the departments of industry, the diminution of crime, the lessening of the poor-rates, and the progress and prosperity of every class of citizens. He drew a picture of the alarms and menaces which preceded the introduction of free-trade, the manner in which the denunciations of the prophets of evil had been disproved by the extraordinary benefits which the emancipation of trade had conferred on the community; increased consumption, and increased profits; a general content, and a universal conviction that the truths of political economy are as beneficent in their influences as they are unanswerable in their logical conclusions. The state of the silk-trade (the trade which certainly has most to fear from French competition, as France has so undoubted a superiority in taste and fashion) was much dilated on. The increase in the exports of silk manufactures from Great Britain, which were only about 300,000*l.* sterling per annum under the protective system

had now reached 2,600,000*l.*, and had been accompanied by an incredible extension of well-being and enjoyment amongst the operatives, whose wages had doubled during the last thirty years. A long and animated debate followed the statement, and it seemed generally acknowledged that nothing but the clear vision and firm purpose of the Emperor would have subdued the resistance of the Protectionist party; but there was an almost unanimous expression of opinion that no country would in the end more greatly benefit by the adoption of free-trade legislation than France herself.

Literature.

Twelve Years in China. By John Scarth, Esq. Thomas Constable and Co., Edinburgh.

This volume, which has been anonymously announced as authored by a "British resident," it appears by a prefatory notice is the production of Mr. Scarth, a well-known British merchant in China. We are glad to observe the tribute he pays to the conduct of Admiral Seymour. His views in some respects run counter to Sir John Bowring's and Mr. Oliphant's. He condemns the constant wars we are involved in with China. Notwithstanding the large number of books which have lately appeared on China, we can see much valuable and interesting experience of China, the Chinese, their arts, manufactures, and social condition, and the illustrative sketches by the author are of great value to the reader. We must reserve further comment until our next, the book having only just reached us.

The Hsin Ching lu; or, Book of Experiments. By T. F. WADE, Esq., Chinese Secretary. Hong Kong. 1859.

Now that our connection with China is every day becoming closer, and the natural course of events is leading us northwards towards Peking, the appearance of a work like the *Hsin Ching lu*—practical studies in the Peking dialect—is of immense importance. Apart from the value of the materials which this book contains for the mere student of the language, there is much to interest the inquirer into the institutions of the Chinese, as well as those in search of philological and ethnographical notes. The title—which we suppose to have been invented for the book, and which does not, as some may suppose, imply the translation of a native work—is peculiarly appropriate: it signifies "The Record of seeking a ford," or a royal road—an easy method of learning this most difficult tongue. And, indeed, of all languages the Chinese is that one, we should say, which most needs the guiding hand of a master. A student may plunge into its depths and find himself well-nigh overwhelmed, but a prudent word of counsel may guide his steps ever onwards with a cheering sense of success. To be effective, however, this direction must come from one having authority—one who has himself trod the path and who knows the way. We cannot but rejoice, therefore, to see a work by so diligent a student and master as the author of the present work. Whether the book quite comes up to the anticipation to which the title gives rise—of proving a "ford" to those who enter upon this hard task—we may be permitted to doubt; while at the same time it cannot be denied that, as "contributions to the study of Chinese," the book is invaluable, containing, as it does, so large an amount of matter, with explanatory notes. The fact of its being the first work on the pure dialect of Peking that has appeared, invests it with great interest, and the excellent advice which Mr. Wade offers upon the cultivation of the language, and more especially the pronunciation. He impresses upon the student the importance of speaking well in the first place, in order that he may make the most advantage of "those ill-paid Chinese teachers, who, though often poor and mean-looking, are perfect mines of literary wealth." The fellow-labourers with Mr. Wade in the preparation of this work appear to have been scholars from the capital of China itself; and thus there is presented to the student a collection of about 400 passages in *bona fide* Pekinese. The attention which this book will call forth to the peculiar intonations required in speaking cannot be overlooked; and though, with respect to the system of representing Chinese sounds with Roman letters, we should differ from our author in some minor points, we feel much gratification in recommending the work to the earnest attention of those intending to acquire Chinese.

Narrative of Lord Elgin's Mission to China and Japan. By LAURENCE OLIPHANT, Esq. William Blackwood and Sons, London and Edinburgh.

Every event in modern days has its historian, no matter how far the scene of action may be, or the insalubrity of its climate.

So it is with the book now before us. Whether the late ambassador, Lord Elgin, had any idea of this nature floating in his mind when he appointed the author of this work his private secretary, we know not, but certain it is he made a very happy selection in Mr. Oliphant, for, besides having been a great traveller, and therefore the more likely to be unprejudiced, he was already known to literature, and from his position, first as private secretary, and, on the Hon. Mr. Bruce's return to England with the treaty of Tien-tsin, as secretary to the mission, he had the very best opportunity of gathering information. In perusing Mr. Oliphant's work, therefore, we were prepared to find a clear, faithful, and dispassionate "Narrative of Lord Elgin's Mission to China and Japan." Although the book throughout is pervaded by a slight spice of *badinage*, it is truthful and unexaggerated. Further, Mr. Oliphant himself is an able draughtsman, and to his pencil we are indebted for many of the engravings. We cannot, however, praise the manner in which they have been lithographed. In one particular only are we disposed to be at issue with Mr. Oliphant, and that is, that throughout the two volumes he appears to censure Sir Michael Seymour for delay, and even irresolution, particularly with reference to his not having sent the gunboats which Lord Elgin had demanded, or made his appearance himself in the north as soon as the members of the mission anticipated. Now, with all deference to the author, we do think that in this respect Mr. Oliphant judges hastily, for, when we take into consideration the very unsettled state of affairs at Canton, the frequent repairs required by the gunboats, the difficulty of procuring sufficient coal for them, and the adverse monsoon, and further, that the admiral's flagship, the *Calcutta*, was a heavy sailing vessel, and the numerous matters requiring the admiral's presence in the south, we are disposed most fully to acquit the gallant officer of any hesitation or wilful delay; and we are the more fortified in our opinion when we remember the admiral's acknowledged zeal and efficiency, and even *empressement* for the service. We may even go further, and say that, had the admiral started the vessels sooner than he did, he would in all probability have had them putting back to Hong Kong, or perhaps driven to leeward as far as Manila. In a word, he exercised the same prudence and foresight in this as in all his operations, and, as a correspondent lately attested, it was to that that the foreign residents in Canton and Hong Kong owed their very lives. We can almost pardon the expression of disappointment at the time that Lord Elgin was so thwarted and kept idle at Shanghai and the Gulf of Pechili, "waiting for the gunboats;" but to reproduce those occurrences after the lapse of nearly two years is a blemish on the author's able work. It is tolerably well known, too, that Lord Elgin has subsequently admitted his regret that he penned the condemnatory despatch on Sir Michael; and we affirm that, but for the able and successful manner in which Lord Elgin was seconded in the military part of his mission, he would not have procured a treaty worth having.

The China Question.

A very able pamphlet has just been published. It is written in a lucid style and temperate tone, and gives a *resumé* of the late events in China. It is evidently written by an American; we are disposed to think by an eminent diplomatist lately in the East—indeed by Mr. Reed himself.

On the Peiho disaster, the writer says:—

"Never before has such provocation been given to the evil impulses of our civilised and Christianised nature, as at the forts of the Peiho in June last. It is exasperated by a consciousness of mistake all round—in steamship at home, if the instructions were peremptory; in diplomacy abroad, if discretion was unwisely exercised; and in the executive skill and tact of the parties."

And again:—

"All these particulars combine to form a provocation by these Oriental heathens, such as has never been given before, and in comparison with which the petty indignities—the burning of opium chests and the tearing up of a plenipotentiary in the Canton factories—which lighted up a war twenty years ago, are as nothing."

Lord Palmerston's rumoured warlike tendency is apparently considered by the writer as one cause of our present difficulty.

"The controlling spirit directing England's foreign policy was the same in 1839, in 1850, in 1855, in 1857, and in 1859. Lord Palmerston was Foreign Secretary when the opium war broke out; when the Piræus was blockaded; when the Outram armament, with its train of military suicides, assailed Persia; when Oude was annexed; when the Arrow outrage was avenged; and is now Prime Minister, when a new war against China is initiated."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

- ADAMS—At Surbiton, on the 5th inst., the wife of F. Adams, Esq., of a daughter, still-born.
 STRACHAN—On the 6th inst., at 4, Vicarage-gardens, Kensington, the wife of George Strachan, Esq., of Hong Kong, of a son.
 TOWNSEND—On the 3rd inst., at 11, Burlington-street, Bath, the wife of Lieutenant John Townsend, R.N., of a son.
 SMITH—On the 28th ult., at Stodham House, near Petersfield, the wife of J. Mackrill Smith, Esq., of a son.
 SPENCER—On the 30th ult., at 16, Bridgewater-square, London, the wife of Robert Spencer, jun., Esq., of a daughter.
 LITTLE—At Masham, Yorkshire, on the 2nd inst., the wife of John Martin Little, Esq., of Singapore, of a son.
 CURLING—On the 31st Jan., at 14, Maids-hill West, the wife of William Curling, Esq., Commander of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamship *Candia*, of a son.
 HILL—On the 12th inst., at 28, Hereford-road North, Painswater, the wife of Norman Hill, Esq., of a daughter.
 GRIBBLE—On the 13th inst., the wife of Thomas Gribble, Esq., of a daughter.
 CAINE—At Hong Kong, on the 19th December, the wife of G. W. Caine, Esq., H.M. Consular Service, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- COPLAND-FORBES—On the 20th December, at St. Giles's, Camberwell, by the Rev. M. S. Edgell, B.A., Patrick, second son of Charles Copland, Esq., A.M., of South Villa, Kennington Oval, and grandson of the late Patrick Copland, LL.D., of Marischal College, Aberdeen, to Louisa Charlotte, second daughter of the late John Forbes, Esq., of Shacklwell and Great St. Helen's.
 HARLAND-WANN—On the 26th ult., at Malene Church, Belfast, by the Rev. Wm. McIlwaine, E. J. Harland, Esq., to Rosa Matilda, eldest daughter of Thomas Wann, Esq., Manager of the Belfast Bank.
 MONTEFIORE-SICHEL—On the 1st inst., J. M. Montefiore, Esq., of Great Stanhope-street, to Henriette Sichel, daughter of Monsieur Solomon Sichel, of the Hague.
 SAINTON-DOLBY—On the 4th inst., at the French Ambassador's Chapel, and afterwards at St. George's, Hanover-square, Prosper Sainton, Esq., of 6, Davies-street, Berkeley-square, to Charlotte Helen Dolby, of 2, Hind-street, Manchester-square.

DEATHS.

- MEESON—On the 30th May, 1859, drowned at sea, on the voyage to Singapore, aged 19, Gordon, the youngest son of the late Richard Meeson, Esq., of Rettendon, Essex, and of Mrs. Meeson, 26, Leighton-grove, Kentish Town.
 MOORSOM—On the 4th inst., at 6, Vernon-terrace, Brighton, Capt. William Moorsom, R.N., C.B., in his 44th year.
 NYE—In Brooklyn, on Saturday, Jan. 14, E. Emmie W., daughter of Gideon Nye, jun., of Canton, China.
 HART—At Manila, on the 13th December, William Hart (son of the late William Hart, Notary Public, San Francisco), for some years resident at Manila, and formerly of San Francisco.
 COLEMAN—At Spring-gardens, Hong Kong, on the 16th December, of fever, John S. F. Coleman, aged 29 years.
 SINGER—At Hong Kong, on the 17th December, at the residence of David Sassoon, Sons, and Co., Barnett Singer, late of Melbourne, aged 21 years.
 HEATON—At Hong Kong, on the 22nd December, Margaret, wife of Captain G. H. Heaton, Government Surveyor.
 MILNER—At Macao, on the 25th December, Major Joaquim Manoel Milner, Knight Commander of the Order of Christ, and former Director of the Portuguese Factory at Surat, aged 68 years.
 SOEST—At Tanglin, Singapore, on the 30th December, Leendert Van Soest, Esq.

London Gazette.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint William Henry Adams (Attorney-General), and William Hepburn Rennie (Auditor-General), Esqrs., to be Members of the Legislative Council of the Island of Hongkong. Also Frederick William Green, Esq., while executing the duties of Attorney-General for that island.

Monetary and Commercial.

The amount of specie by the last mail was 258,619*l.*, of which 25,086*l.* is gold and the rest silver. For Alexandria, gold, 7,950*l.*; Calcutta, silver, 105,020*l.*, and gold, 6,100*l.*; Madras, gold, 3,966*l.*; Ceylon, gold, 1,200*l.*; Hong Kong, silver, 73,598*l.*, and gold, 5,870*l.*; Foo-choo-foo, silver, 965*l.*; and Shanghai, silver, 53,950*l.*

The Red Sea Telegraph Company received, on the 9th inst., the following telegram:—

"Line from Kurrachee to Muscat laid with perfect success on the 17th of January. Newall started from Muscat (to lay the line to Aden) on the 21st."

The distance from Kurrachee to Muscat is about 458 nautical miles. The next section, from Muscat to Hallani, will be 490 miles; and the third, from Hallani to Aden, 730 miles. Should the submersion of the cable be unattended with mishap, it is hoped that the line from Aden to Kurrachee will be

thrown open for public use in about six weeks' time. There will then be uninterrupted telegraphic communication between Alexandria and all parts of India. The cable has one conducting wire.

The annual general meeting of the China Tea Company (limited) took place, when the report and accounts were received, a dividend of six per cent. having been agreed to.

A meeting of the Mediterranean Extension Telegraph Company has been held. The report stated that the line between Malta and Sicily has been successfully laid, and is now in perfect working order. The attempt to restore communication between Malta and Cagliari has been abandoned for the present, and part of the cable is used for a second Sicilian line to Marsala. The Corfu telegraph ceased working in August, the fault appearing to be about twenty-four miles from Corfu, and is still out of repair. The Government have consented that the guaranteed interest on the company's capital be divided into two portions, of which one shall be payable for telegraphic communication between Malta and the Continental system, and the other for communication between Malta and Corfu. The directors do not recommend, in the present financial position of the company, the declaration of a dividend, either on the original or preference shares.

Messrs. Ashton and Co., in a letter to the editor of the *Times*, complain of the irregularity of messages between this country, Marseilles, and Malta, one case being as follows:—"On the afternoon of the 10th of December last a message was sent to us by our agent at Malta, intended to anticipate the China mail which arrived on the 15th, whereas the message did not reach us till the 17th, two days after the delivery of the letters." This is certainly poor encouragement for using the telegraphic line.

According to the statement of the Chancellor of Exchequer, when bringing forward the budget on the 9th inst., it is intended to renew the duties imposed on tea and sugar for the purposes of the Russian war. The credit asked on account of the third Chinese war is £500,000.

EXCHANGES.

	E 1 Govt. Bills, 60 days' sight.	House Bills, 60 days' sight.
On Calcutta (Co's Rupee) ...	2s. 2d.	2s. 0d.
On Bombay (ditto) ...	2s. 2d.	2s. 0d.
On Madras (ditto) ...	2s. 2d.	2s. 0d.
On Singapore (dols.) Bank Bills	4s. 9d.	4s. 2d.
On Hong Kong, ditto	4s. 9d.	4s. 2d.
Bills drawn on Madras £18 6s. 8d.		

GOLD AND SILVER.

Portugal Gold in Coin (per ounce) ...	£3 17 9½
Foreign Gold in Bars ...	3 18 1
Spanish Doubloons ...	...
United States Gold Coin ...	3 18 8½
Silver in Bars (Standard) ...	0 5 2½
Mexican Dollars ...	0 5 2½
Caracas Dollars ...	£0 6 0 to 0 6 3

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Good common Congou has met with a steady demand, and the price has advanced to 1s 5½d. to 1s 5½d per lb, which is the present quotation. Low grades have been readily taken at a proportionate advance. Old Flavoury Congous have been sold to a fair extent up to 1s. 7d. per lb., but a few at the recent public sales sold about ½d. per lb. lower. The new imports of the descriptions have been taken very freely at a rise of 2d. per lb. Fair to good Ho Hwa and Nung Chows also show a similar rise, and the sales have been large. Minings and Wopaks have been more in demand than for some time past, and prices show a further improvement of 1d. per lb. Tayshans have sold freely at advanced rates. Oolons and Souchongs show no material alteration, with the exception of the commoner kinds, which have participated in the general advance. Flowery Pekes have met with rather more inquiry, and there is some improvement from the recent extreme depression. In scented teas there has been a large business. The commoner kinds of Caper have been bought speculatively at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d., the finer kinds being in request at full prices for consumption. Common fair Orange Pekoe shows an advance of 1½d to 2d per lb, whilst good and fine have been more saleable at rather better prices. Young Hysons have been in great demand, and on these we quote an advance of 1d. per lb for the premium kinds. Taiping Gunpowders have sold from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 10d., in half chests, and 1s. 11d. to 2s. 2d. in 10 catty boxes. Ping Sueys have sold to a considerable extent, both in half chests and boxes, at former prices. Hysons under 2s. per lb. have been wanted. Canton Young Hysons show an advance of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. Fair to good Canton make Gunpowders are also in request at full prices. There have been four public sales, comprising 62,000 packages tea, of which 24,500 were sold; 2,700 being Assam teas, and 11,200 packages offered without reserve. The stock of black on the 1st inst. was 61,484,000 lbs. against 66,573,000 last year, and 76,256,000 in 1858.

SILK.—We have to report a quiet market in silk, home consumers decidedly restricting their purchases in consequence of their inability to make progress in the sale of manufactured goods, and foreigners still holding off as determinedly as ever, notwithstanding the prospect of their being able to send in goods to this country free of duty. It may be that when the uncertainty is at an end, we may find both classes of buyers more disposed for business; in the meantime the high range of prices of the raw material, if not decidedly checking actual consumption, has a most repressing influence

upon the enterprise of all manufacturers, both here and on the Continent. In China silk the arrivals have been tolerably large, viz., 5,905 bales; but the idea that the total export will prove scarcely equal to European requirements makes importers very firm. Chinese thrown silk remains heavy and depressed, a forced sale or two at the end of the month having failed to produce any increased demand. Japan sorts are getting into favour, and a large business is expected in a few months.

The sold stock on the 1st inst. was 6,336 bales of Shanghai, 1,005 Canton, and 902 Thrown, against 8,138, 1,115, and 454 at same period last year. Of unsold stock, 8,266 Shanghai, 1,241 Canton, and 2,194 Thrown, against 11,275, 1,136, and 398 at corresponding period last year.

	s.	d.	s.	d.	Superior.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	21	0	26	0					
" No. 3 and 4	22	6	23	6					
" No. 5	20	6	21	6					
Taysam	18	0	20	0	20	6	21	6	
Ditto, long reel	16	6	17	6	18	0	18	6	
Canton	9	0	15	0	17	0	18	0	
Chinese thrown	19	0	21	6	22	0	23	6	
Japan	16	6	11	6	20	0	26	0	
Yuenfa	19	0	23	0					

CORRUM.—A good demand has prevailed, and a fair amount of business has been transacted. In a few sales an eighth has been obtained. Surat, 4½ to 5½; Dholerab, 4d. and 5d.; Oumraivatte, 3½ to 5; Oompta, 3½ to 4½; Shawgna, 4½ to 5½; Northern and Western, 3½ to 4½; Tinney, 4½ to 5½.

TEX.—A few small parcels of Banca have been sold at 137s. Straits, 131s. 6d. to 132s.

RIOM.—Operations have been much contracted, and lower prices have in some instances been submitted to. Low to good middling white Bengal 9s. 6d. to 11s. 6d., good and fine 12s. to 13s. 9d., Ballam (lately) 9s. 6d. to 10s., Madras 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d.; ordinary old to good Rangoon 7s. 6d. to 9s. 7½d., good old Necranzie 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d., common new 9s. 7½d., old Mo Imein 7s. 10½d., fair old Bassei 8s. 7½d., and Java low to good middling white 10s. 3d. to 12s., good 12s. 6d. to 13s. 3d.

SAGO.—Fine small has brought stiff prices. 2,000 boxes Borneo make 20s. to 21s., common to fair small and medium 16s. to 17s., fair large 16s. to 16s. 6d. Sago flour has been neglected.

COFFEE.—The public sales, which have been numerous and extensive, consist principally of pale and Mocha. In the trifling transactions that have taken place, advanced rates have been obtained. Other East India kinds have gone off similarly to those of Plantation Ceylon: good and fine qualities with spirit at stiff rates, but inferior sorts heavily, and rather cheaper.

SUGAR.—The market has recently assumed a languid tone, pending introduction of the Budget. There is little chance in our quotation. Clayed Manila, only reduced offers have been obtainable, and this description being held firmly, scarcely anything has transpired; unclayed has been dealt in to a fair extent: our previous quotations. The Siam public sale consisting of strong refining qualities, has been taken at enhanced prices. In Java, a good amount of business has been transacted both on the spot and afloat, mostly at full prices, excepting some parcels to arrive from Holland, which were so cheap. Penang good to fine, fine brown, 35s. 6d. to 38s. Low and mid yellow, 38s. 6d. to 40s. 6d. Good mid to good, 41s. to 42s. 6d. One lot fine, 43s. Manila clayed, 39s. 6d. to 40s. 6d. Gurattah date, 40s. to 45s.; Java, at 45s. 6d.; a few strong grey, 41s. to 43s.

PEPPER.—The market for this article has had an upward tendency, and considerable purchases have been made. Quotations are ½d. to ¾d. per lb. higher. Singapore, 8,000 bags, grey to very good black 4½d. to 4½d., and 1,200 bags, for arrival, at 4½d. to 4 5-16d.; also 500 bags Penang (dusty Trang kin), at 4½d. to 4½d., and common brown 4½d. to 4 3-16d.; 600 bags fair to good Travancore at 5d. to 5½d.; and 1,500 bags Malabar, good heavy 5½d. to 5½d., light 4½d. to 4½d. In White Pepper there has been a material advance, Singapore, which previously sold at 6½d., advancing rapidly to 7d. to 7½d., and for arrival 7d., also common to good bold Penang at from 6½d. to 7½d. This activity, however, was of short duration, and these rates are no longer obtainable, the business latterly being of trifling amount.

JAPAN WAX.—The market still remains at 6½s. 6d. to 6s. There has been no sale since our last.

HEMP.—Manilla still continues to find a dull and drooping market, and of 2,000 bales at auction, 600 were afterwards disposed of at a further decline, viz., fair average roping at 22s.

RUM.—East India has been in some request, and about 800 casks have been realized, Penang, Mauritius, and Madras, at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 7½d.

TOBACCO.—Manilla tobacco is much looked after, and prices are very high. Average parcels of Cagayan would sell readily at 16s. to 17s. per lb. Yloilo, usual assortments, 10d. to 11d. Segars, No. 2, 5s. 3d. to 5s. 9d.; No. 3, 6s. 6d. to 7s. East India tobacco, about 5,000, sold at 2d. to 2½d. Sanfoway tobacco, 4½d. to 5½d.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—Staffordshire cold blast, 4½ 10s.; best native hydrate pigs, 3½ 15s. to 4½ 2s. 6d.; first-class all mine grey forge pigs, 3½ 10s. to 3½ 15s.; good mine pigs, with a modicum of fine cinder, 3½ to 3½ 5s.; mine pigs, deteriorated by cinder, 2½ 15s. to 3½ 2s. 6d.; grey forge cinder pig iron, 2½ 15s. to 2½ 17s. 6d. White forge cinder pig, 2½ 10s. to 2½ 15s. Melters, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, 2½ 17s. 6d. to 3½ 2s. 6d.; superior makes of all mine melting iron, 3½ 10s. to 4½, according to make and quality. The official list of prices of Staffordshire finished iron is as follows:—Common Staffordshire bars, 7½ 10s., at the works; best bars, 8½ 10s.; sheets, 9½; doubles, 10½ 10s.; nail sheets, 8½ 10s.; Latin, 12½; boiler plates, 9½; best and best best in proportion; common rods, 7½ 10s.; hoops, 8½ 10s.; gas strip, 8½; Canada plates, 12½; and all other sorts in proportion.

COPPER.—Fixed rates continue to be maintained. One or two small lots have been disposed of at a shade easier. The late sales exhibit the standard less firm, and indeed declining. Several parcels of foreign copper have changed hands, say Burra Burra, 118½ to 118½ 10s. on the spot, and one parcel same brand arrive at 119½. Copper sheet and sheathing, 13d. per lb.; old, 11½d.; yellow metal sheathing, 11½d.; tough cake, 117½ per ton; tile, 117½; best selected, 120½; Burra Burra, 118½ to 119½.

TEX.—A reduction has taken place. Prices now are, English block per cwt., 136s. bar, 137s.; refined, 138s.

TIN PLATES.—Tin plates are dull, and prices rather weaker. The best charcoal I.C., 32s. to 33s.; second quality, 30s. to 31s. 6d.

LEAD.—There is a large business doing. The Russian Government and our own Ordnance are buying largely. The late advance is well maintained. English, 22l. 10s. to 23l.; Spanish, soft, 22l. 5s.; shot, patent, 26l.; sheet, 23l. 5s. to 23l. 10s.; white, 30s.

SPELTER.—Market is quiet at 21l. 5s. to 21l. 10s.; stock, 3,742 tons, which, being a decrease on the yearly average, would signify a probable advance in price.

SALT.—White, common, 7s. per ton; butter, 8s. 6d.; stored, 10s.; handed, 11s.; bagged, 13s.; rock, Prussian, 3s.; large lumps, 3s. 3d. to 5s.; and Irish ditto, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. To these prices 3s. per ton for lighterage must be added.

EXPORTS OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from London during the present year:—

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	£15,870	£199,143
Foo-Chow-Foo	—	2,580
Hong Kong	—	276,598
Manila	—	—
Singapore	—	2,400
Penang	—	13,800

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Cotton Yarn, No. 16-24,					Spanish Stripes, Scarlet,				
per lb.	0	0 1/2	0	11 1/2	per yard	3	6	5	0
Ditto, 26-32	1	0 1/2	1	1 1/2	Ditto, assorted, per ditto	3	0	4	9
Shirtings, grey, 7 lb. to					Velvets, 22 in. per yard	0	8	0	10
7 lb. 2 oz. per piece	8	0	8	4 1/2	Velvets 18 to 26 in.	0	6	1	0
Ditto, 8 to 9 lb. per piece	9	6	10	9 1/2	Damasks (cotton), per pce.	18	0	30	0
Ditto White, 54 to 64 reed,					Chintzes, per piece	7	0	9	0
per piece	9	0	10	6	Handkerchiefs 32 by 32	2	3	4	6
Ditto, figured, ditto	10	6	16	0	Grey Twills, 29 yards	0	0	0	0
T Cloths, 32 in. by 24 yds.,					Jaconet White, 43 in. per				
ditto	6	0	8	6	piece	8	9	17	6
Ditto 36 in. by 24 yds., do.	8	6	9	6	Cambries, 42 in. 12 yard.	7	6	13	0
Medium Cloths, per yard	7	6	9	0	Turkey Red Cloths, 33 in.				
Camlets, per pce.	60	0	95	0	by 24 yards	12	0	15	0
Long Ellis, Scarlet, per pce	33	0	34	0	Maddapollans, white, 32				
Ditto, assorted kinds, do.	29	0	32	0	in 24 yards	4	3	6	0
Lastings, per piece	30	0	60	0	Domestics, 35 in. per yard	0	3	0	0

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

The important arrangements of the Government with regard to the commercial operations promulgated in Mr. Gladstone's budget, have much engaged the attention of the mercantile community.

SILK.—The quantity offered at the public sales was 1,054 bales Bengal, and 7,329 bales China, and 542 bales Japan. All passed without biddings, as usual, and we cannot even report "fair business by private contract." The market is still very quiet, and the feeling is aggravated in some degree by the proposed abolition of duty upon foreign manufactured goods. The Japan silk has attracted considerable attention, and the finest and better classes have been sold at 24s. 6d. to 26s. 6d. per lb.; some even at 28s.

TEA.—There is no change in the market, everything remaining very quiet at quotations. The budget affecting contracts, warrants, &c., has drawn forth strong demonstrations, and a committee has been formed to take action, in order to arrive at some modifications. The effect of the advices by the mails just delivered is not yet perceptible, nor is it anticipated there will be any important change.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN TABLE.—Feb. 8, at Schelde, from Batavia, Philotaxe; Jan. 25, at Boston, from Manila, Asterion; 24, at New York, from Canton, Storm King; 29, from Shanghai, Pampero; 30, from Foo Chow Foo, Nightingale; 31, from Shanghai; Windward Feb. 8, at Helvoet, from Batavia, Vyf Vrienden; 10, at London, from Hong Kong, Ocean Bride; at Portsmouth, Susannah; 14, at Dartmouth, from Macao, Wilhelmine Bexdixen, leaky, and with both masts sprung—she has been surveyed and recommended to discharge; 11, at Dublin, from Canton, Valdivia; off Dungeness, from Batavia, Wilhelmine van Dale; 14, off Penzance, from Shanghai, Wynaud; 15, at Plymouth, from Batavia, Drie Vrienden; off Scilly, from China, Kelso.

DEPARTURES.—February 9, from London for Hong Kong, Robin Hood; 10 for Shanghai, Neville; 11 for Hong Kong and Canton, Flying Cloud; 9 from off Dover for Batavia, Henrietta; 8 from Sunderland for Hong Kong, Catharina Geertruida; 14 from Liverpool for Batavia and Sourabaya, Brigitte Melchior; 10 from off Portsmouth for Batavia, Margaretha Simonetta; 12 from Liverpool for Woosung, British Empire; 10 from Shields for Batavia, Guinea; 11 for Shanghai, Glencoe; 10 from off Torbay for Singapore, Germanie; 17 from London, in ballast, for Sunderland and Hong Kong, Sarah Scott; 10 from Cardiff for Shanghai, Giovanni; from Grimsby, for Macassar, Ulysses; 13 from Liverpool for Hong Kong, Romeo; from Cardiff for Singapore, Haamstede; 12 for Hong Kong, Flying Scud, for Singapore, Johanna Maria Christine; 14 from Newport for Singapore, Darmstadter Bank; 15 from

London for Hong Kong, Euphrates; 13 from off Beachy Head, for Batavia, Gouverneur van Swieten; from off Dungeness, Prins Fredrik der Nederlanden; 14 from Cardiff for Singapore, Resident v. Son; 16 from Liverpool for Woosung, Bald Eagle; 15 from Falmouth for Singapore, Eliza Hands; from Algesiras for Singapore, Michael Montaine.

LAI D ON.—At Liverpool, for Shanghai, Cambala, Japanese, Queen of May, for Woosung; Kit Carson, Carrington, for Hong Kong; Veronica, for Hong Kong and Whampoa; Jessie Beazley, for Batavia and Singapore; Sarah Huntley, for Batavia and Sourabaya; Albert Borsig, for Batavia; Caesar, for Singapore Anglia. At Glasgow for Singapore, Juliet; for Singapore and Penang, Three Bells; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Leven.

The Earl of Malmesbury has withdrawn the notice mentioned in our Parliamentary intelligence.

FOREIGN COMMERCIAL REPORT.

LONDON, Feb. 18, 1869.

The mails to hand this morning bring but little commercial intelligence; but from Japan we are advised of a stoppage of trade at Kanagawa on the everlasting question of currency. It appears that foreigners in their demands for the native currency, the *Itaihou* came to high words with the authorities, and an appeal being made to the British Consul, General Alcock, residing at Yedo, he issued a circular on the subject, which we give elsewhere. This subject was fully discussed in our last issue, showing the large profits made on Japanese gold when exported to Shanghai, which is the real cause of all the trouble, and up to the present we see no plan marked out for a remedy. The consequences are very injurious to our friendly relations, and we trust the next mail will bring accounts of a plan to obviate the difficulties.

The port of Swatow was to be formally opened on the 1st of January, under the American treaty, the British also joining under the favoured nation-clause in this movement. It is announced that the duties will be collected under inspectorship, as at Canton.

The inspectors at Canton, it is alleged, have been the means of driving away a large portion of the trade. Business is, however, invariably slack when rice is, as at present, scarce, and at, of course, enhanced rates. The scarcity, however, is more prospective than real.

The America claims have been settled by a part-payment in cash, and the issue of scrip bearing interest and the guarantee of the United States Government. The manner in which the part-payment has been made arises from stoppages of duty at the various ports. This forms a striking contrast to the neglect which has attended the British claims. Of all the large losses incurred not a single dollar has been reimbursed, nor is there any prospect of their liquidation. The consequences have of course in some cases been ruinous, and the supineness of our Government in this affair should form the subject of a petition to the House, seeing that the same mode was open to us as the Americans, and to a much larger extent. At this present time our position in China is reversed from its usual standard, being now decidedly No. 2, and America's No. 1. In consequence of the large remittances of bullion, exchange at Hong Kong has declined from 4s. 11 1/2d. to 4s. 9d.; and this fall will no doubt produce a corresponding fall at Shanghai.

IN EXPORTS.

TEA.—Nothing is authentic as to the intentions of the tea-men in regard to the new season's tea, the balance of the old is said to be held firmly for advanced rates. The export for present season is 49 millions, against 28 last year. At Shanghai the settlements reported amount to 3,000 chests and 2,500 half-chests (at 27 to 29 Tls. for Ningchows, and 18 to 23 Tls. for Lesan), and 1,000 pkgs. Flowery Pekoe for England at 28 to 50 Tls. The unsold stock is stated at 22,000 pkgs. Ningchow and Oopack—6,000 pkgs. Shanghai packed Congou—600 chests Suchong, and 4,000 packages Flowery Pekoe. In Greens 35,000 half-chests and 5,500 boxes (all for the United States except 8,000 half-chests and 5,000 boxes which are for England). The total settlements of the season reach 330,000 packages, against 320,000 do. same time last season. The unsold stock is estimated at 20,000 packages Moyune, 42,000 packages Fychow, 5,000 packages Taiping, 5,000 packages Pingsuey, and 5,000 packages Shanghai packed. Total, 77,000 packages. At Foo-Chow and Canton the transactions have been very limited, the stocks being inferior.

RAW SILK.—The settlements are reported at Shanghai at 4,000 bales; stock, 6,000, of which it is reported that 2,000 have been withdrawn for native purposes, thus indicating a short supply. Rates have advanced, and the quotations are, for Tsatlees No. 1, 440 to 450 taels; Taysaams No. 1, 370 to 385 taels. Canton rates are too high for purchases to be effected.

DRUGS, &c.—Cassia Lignea has declined, and can be purchased at 17 dols. 75 cents to 18 dols.; no sales reported. Stock at market, 3,000 piculs. Cassia Buds, 40 piculs settled at 34 dols. to 36 dols. Cassia Oil, no sales; 290 dols. to 300 dols. the quotation. Star Aniseed, no sales; quotations, 18 dols. to 18 dols. 50 cents. Aniseed Oil, no stock, no sales, 180 dols. to 190 dols. the quotation. Galangal is quoted at 4 dols. 50 cents to 4 dols. 75 cents; and Galls, 18 dols. to 20 dols. Rhubarb, none good at market. Wool is worth 9½ taels; sales, 550 piculs. Rhubarb, nothing doing, and little fine offering: 35 taels is the quotation for the best. Camphor: sales have been made in Hongkong to the extent of 400 piculs at 25 dols., leaving a small stock unsold.

IN IMPORTS.

The markets for cotton and woollen goods are in a satisfactory state, with increased rates. In yarns the market is flat. In metals generally the demand is active, and stocks moderate. Coals are still quoted at 16 dols. for best steam.

At SINGAPORE the market is also in a very buoyant state.

At MANILLA.—Sales have been made of English goods to arrive; the vessels making long passages had caused a stagnation.

The picul is 133½ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents. and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXPORTS OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN. SEASON 1859-60.

	From Shanghai.	From Foo-chow.	From Canton, Macao, and Hong Kong.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From July 1 to Nov. 30, 1859	15,456,507	11,497,656	15,075,524	42,030,017	33,571
Comparative period last season	4,652,905	4,998,600	12,046,473	21,717,978	37,218

Sailed since.—From Shanghai: Dec. 3, City of Carlisle, 990,265 lbs.; and 560 bales silk; 14, Naomi, 929,100 lbs., and 283 bales silk. From Foo-Chow-Foo: 7, Leonida, 796,600 lbs.; 14, Mercius, 584,800 lbs.; Lobelia, 914,730 lbs.; 24, Albion, 540,500 lbs. From Canton: 8, Clipper, 171,941 lbs., and 5 bales silk; 10, Duke of Wellington, 703,500 lbs.; 12, Florence, 985,415 lbs.; 15, Ganges Mail Steamer, 1,973 bales silk; 21, Rajah of Sarawak, 113 bales silk; Chatham, 466,600 lbs.; 23, James Lemon, 630,000 lb; 30, per Mail Steamer, 2,511 bales silk.

TO UNITED STATES.

	From Shanghai.	From Foo-chow.	From Canton, Macao, and Hong Kong.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From July 1 to Nov. 30, 1859	...	...	...	18,380,260	1,316
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	12,527,271	734

Sailed since.—From Shanghai: Dec. 3, Swordfish, 813,662 lbs.; 10, Joshua Bates, 641,933 lbs.; 18, Snow Squall, 631,865 lbs.; 20, Skylark, 1,158,793 lbs. From Foo-chow-Foo: 3, Panama, 843,000 lbs. From Whampoa: 10, Electric Spark, 11,925 lbs.

TO THE CONTINENT.

	From Shanghai.	From Foo-chow.	From Canton, Macao, and Hong Kong.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From July 1 to Nov. 30, 1859	...	...	...	2,149,036	2,697
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	107,900	3,182

Sailed since.—From Macao: Dec. 6, Otto, 159,295 lbs.

TO SAN FRANCISCO. Packages.

	From Shanghai.	From Foo-chow.	From Canton, Macao, and Hong Kong.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From July 1 to Nov. 30, 1859	...	...	...	9,783	...
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	7,539	...

Sailed since.—From Hong Kong: Dec. 10, Moonlight, 3, 133 packages

TO AUSTRALIA.

	From Shanghai.	From Foo-chow.	From Canton, Macao, and Hong Kong.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From July 1 to Nov. 30, 1859	...	...	...	7,577,808	...
Comparative period last season	...	...	...	2,912,720	...

Sailed since.—From Hong Kong: Dec. 3, Cyclone, 24,000 lbs.; Beatrice 15,000 lbs. From Foo-Chow-Foo: 9, Mary Nicholson, 140,100 lbs.; 20, Lootse, 151,200 lbs.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	From Shanghai.	From Foo-chow.	From Canton, Macao, and Hong Kong.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	18,604
" 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,240	22,143
" 1847 to 1848	...	...	...	63,972,300	22,143
" 1849 to 1850	...	...	...	77,327,600	61,990
" 1851 to 1852	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,440
" 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	76,990,255	64,311
" 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From.	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 21	Texel	Batavia	Reinhardt	
— 22	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Ary Scheffer	
— 23	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Noord Brabant	
— 25	Deal	China	Abdul Medjid	
— 25	Off the Wight	Batavia	Amsterdam	Henderschee.
— 26	Waterford	Singapore	Harvest Home	Wright.
— 30	Falmouth	Manila	Lizzie Aisbitt	Jacks.
— 17	New York	Manila	N. B. Palmer	Frisbie.
— 17	New York	Manila	Comet	Todd.
— 30	London	Passage	Cherokee	Allen.
— 30	Plymouth	Rangoon	Acincourt	Pashley.
— 27	Helvoet	Padang	Julie	Brem.
Feb. 1	London	Canton	Mirage	Roberts.
Jan. 31	Deal	Woo-sung	Assyrian	Shepherd.
— 31	Deal	Hong Kong	Lammermuir	Shewau.
— 29	Off Queenstown	Canton	Congo	Dinse.
— 29	Texel	Batavia	Argo	Scherpbier.
Feb. 2	London	Shanghai	Sultan	Berry.
— 1	Deal	Batavia	Balnaguth	Hayes.
— 2	Deal	Penang	Foam	Innes.
— 1	Cowes	Batavia	Homier	Ellins.
— 1	Plymouth	Manila	Monica	Madden.
Jan. 30	Texel	Batavia	Van Galen	Smit.
— 30	Texel	Protolingo	Koophandel	De Vries.
Feb. 1	Texel	Batavia	Landboun	Kleinenburg.
— 3	Dartmouth	Bangkok	Honnd	Conaway.
— 2	Queenstown	Batavia	Favoriten, with loss of stanchions	Kaurin.
— 2	Queenstown	Rangoon	Boomerang	Young.
— 1	Cuxhaven	Batavia	Magdalena	Hinrichsen.
Jan. 30	St. Nazaire	Singapore and Mauritius	Risson	Ferret.
Feb. 5	Falmouth	Shanghai	Gharra	Burkett.
— 5	Falmouth	Singapore	Christian Loren	Mattsen.
— 4	Bristol	Batavia	Marie Auguste	Bystrum.
Jan. 22	New York	Foochow Foo	Jacob Bell	Low.
— 24	Boston	Penang	Daniel Sharp	Cushing.
Feb. 7	Deal	Singapore	Bunker Hill	Donne.
— 7	Off Liverpool	Singapore	Loodianah	Walton.
— 4	Kingstown	Hong Kong	Jessie Beazley	Wintrington.
— 2	Cuxhaven	Bangkok	Ariel	Olsson.
— 4	Texel	Batavia	Marianne	Gronbeck.
— 4	Texel	Batavia	Joan Melchior Kemper	Salin.
— 4	Texel	Tjilatjap	China	Luttenberg.
— 5	Havre	Rangoon	Agincourt	Pashley.
— 7	Falmouth	Rangoon	Solide	Weden.
— 8	London	Shanghai	Earl of Southesk	Bell.
— 7	Deal	Whampoa	Kate Carnie	McLean.
— 7	Liverpool	Singapore	Queen Mab	Glendinning.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From.	To	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 26	London	Hong Kong & Cntn.	Polonoise	
— 26	Liverpool	Woo-sung, China	Lebanon	
— 26	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Carin	
— 25	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Tollens	
— 23	Sunderland	Shanghai	Emperor	
— 23	Liverpool	Singapore	Falk	
— 23	Liverpool	Batavia and Sourabaya	Eleanor	
— 26	Liverpool	China	Charmer	
— 27	Deal	China	Earl of Windsor	
— 30	London	Hong Kong	Kheronse (s.s.)	Hurst.
— 29	Off Dartmouth	Singapore	Keystone	Varina.
— 30	Liverpool	Shanghai	Electric	Sprott.
— 31	London	Manila	Amoor	Potts.
Feb. 1	London	Singapore	Nightingale	Beard.
— 1	Liverpool	H. K. & Whampoa	Chrysolite	McClelland.
Jan. 31	Portland	Shanghai	Challenger	Killick.
— 31	Queenstown	Sourabaya	Prins van Orange (s.s.)	
Feb. 1	Falmouth	Singapore	Jacobus Martinus	Meppelden.
Jan. 31	Portland	Macassar	Ablasserwaard	V. Lindner.
Feb. 2	Falmouth	Hong Kong	Anne Lee	Ramsay.
— 4	London	Hong Kong	Pioneer	Robinson.
— 1	Plymouth	Amoy	Vice-Adm. Gobins	V. Dux.
— 2	Liverpool	Singapore	Rangoon	Stapledon.
Dec. 30	St. Vincent	China	H. M. S. Vulcan	
Feb. 5	Shields	Batavia	Zes Gezusters	Rotgers.
Dec. 30	St. Vincent	China	Flunder (st. transp.)	
Jan. 11	Boston	Shanghai	Competition	Hillbreth.
— 6	Boston	Shanghai	Magenta	Scars.
— 6	Boston	Singapore	Hillander	
— 23	New York	China	Mandarin	

EXPORTS FROM CUSTOM HOUSE RETURNS.

From LONDON TO HONG KONG, per the Polmaise, cleared Jan. 26.—Calicoes, plain, 528,200 yds.; twist and yarn, 24,000 lbs.; long and short cloths, 1137; woollen and worsted stuffs, 1007; beer, 1,0007; bottled beer, 3907; red wine, 100 gals.; sweetened spirits, 12 gals.; brandy, 105 gals.; corks, 600 lbs.

From LONDON TO MANILA, per the Amoor, cleared January 31.—Bottled beer, 4087.

From LONDON TO SINGAPORE, per Florence Nightingale, cleared Feb. 1.—Calicoes plain, 609,000 yds.; printed and dyed, 150,300 yds.; flannels and blanketing, 3407; long and short cloths, 1,0807; woollen and worsted stuffs, 1,8037; beer, 1,2767; bottled beer, 1,4127; sail cloth, 3407; red wine, 454 gals.; white wine, 1,434 gals.; brandy, 13 gals.; plain spirits, 243 gals.; British spirits, 1,231 gals.; cottons, 41,280 yds., and value 5,1107; window glass, 160 cwt.; unrated paper, 499 lbs.; steel, 30 tons; spelter, 11 tons; tobacco, 177 lbs.; cotton yarn, 32,820 lbs.

From LONDON TO HONG KONG, per Pioneer, cleared Feb. 4.—Calicoes, plain, 2,300 yds.; counterpanes and quilts, 100; B. linen, 1217; woollens and cottons, 207; woollen and worsted yarn, 507; beer, 2107; bottled beer, 2457; cordage, 6837; sail cloth, 3507.

VESSELS LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Hong Kong: Great Britain, Robin Hood, Haverling, Prince of Wales. For Hong Kong and Whampoa: Cairngorm, Verbeia, Spirit of the Deep, Northfleet, Art Union, Lammernuir, Foam. For Hong Kong and Canton: Flying Cloud, Balmaguth. For Shanghai: Ballarat, Nevill, Anglo-Saxon, Thor, Assyrian. For Shanghai and Japan: Wagoola. For Batavia: William Simpson. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Ida. For Penang: Julia. For Singapore: William Hammond, Ulija.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Manila: Concepcion, Arizona. For Shanghai: William Mitchell, Charlotte Ann, Ocean Gem. For Wo-sung: British Empire, Bad Eagle. For Hong Kong: Carrington, Troy. For Hong Kong and Whampoa: Romeo, Teazer, Mary Lee. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Egyptian Wtch. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Brigitte Melchior, John, Bitty. For Singapore: Victor, Conference.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Singapore: Zambeze. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Daniel Jeffries. For Hong Kong: Fan-qui s.s. For Singapore and Manila: Graham.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Winged Racer, N.B. Palmer, Hage, Fearless, Hotspur, Penguin, Lucy E. Ashby. For Shanghai: Swallow. At BOSTON.—For Hong Kong: Magnet.

VESSELS LOADING (FOREIGN).

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Australia, Bride of the Seas, Chryseis, Donna Anita, Georgiana, Melancthon, Naomi, Solent, Spray of the Ocean. For New York: Edwin Forrest, Sancho Panza, Skylark, Surprise, Snow Squall. At Foo Chow Foo.—For London: Albeni, Myrtle, Scawfell, Spartan, Spirit of the North, Yaratilda. For New York: Flying Children.

At AMOY.—None.

At HONG KONG, MACAO, AND CANTON.—For London: Dominion, Herculean, St. Ja. For New York: War Eagle, Boston Light, Western Continent. For Havana: Maria Elizabeth, Governor Morton, Messenger. For Sydney: Alfred the Great, Benjamin Howard, Bonnie Doon, Castilian, Francis P. Sage, Statesman. For San Francisco: Flora, Flying Mist, Jas. Browns.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Laughing Water, Mystery, West. For Liverpool: Athelstan, Lady Raglan. For Havre: Canrobert. For Boston: Philomela, B. B. Forbes.

VESSELS ARRIVED (FOREIGN).

At SHANGHAI.—From Liverpool: Dec. 19, Patna. From New York: 19, Rover, Star King; 20, Intrepid; 21, Superior.

At Foo Chow Foo and AMOY.—None.

At HONG KONG, MACAO, AND CANTON.—From London: 22, Star of the North. From Liverpool: 17, Abeona. From Glasgow: 23, s.r. Chevy Chase. From New York: 17, Richard Lusted; 29, J. Wakefield.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Dec. 31, West. From Liverpool: 25, Athelstan. From Hamburg: 20, Maria.

VESSELS SAILED (FOREIGN).

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Dec. 18, Naomi. For New York: 10, Joshua Bates, Swordfish; 18, Snow Squall.

From Foo Chow Foo.—For London: Dec. 14, Mercia, Lobelia. For Belfast: 7, Leonie.

From AMOY.—None.

From HONG KONG, MACAO, AND CANTON.—For London: Dec. 20, Rajah of Sarawak; 12, Florence; 25, James Lemon. For Liverpool: 26, Chatam. For England: 24, Lady McDonald, calling at Singapore. For New York: 20, Cosack.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Dec. 29, Royal Lily. For Liverpool: Queen Margaret.

EXPORTS FROM SINGAPORE.

Per Isabella Harnett to Liverpool: 4,954 bags sago flour, 5,645 piculs; 722 bales gambier, 1,734 piculs; 258 cases pearl sago, 290 piculs; 2,283 buffalo hides, 587 piculs; 826 buffalo horns, 22 piculs; 3,937 pieces sapanwood, 172 piculs; 30 bags sugar, 27 piculs; 54 bags white pepper, 66 piculs. Per Nicoline to Bremen: 1,570 bales gambier, 4,094 piculs; 1,959 boxes pearl sago, 2,130 piculs; 42 bags arrowroot, 48 piculs; 514 bags coffee, 519 piculs; 3,175 bags black pepper, 2,230 piculs; 15,044 bales rattans, 607 piculs; 2,285 buffalo horns, 45 piculs. Per Mariquita to Saint Nazaire: 1,812 bales gambier, 4,001 piculs; 487 bags coffee, 506 piculs; 14,067 buffalo horns, 308 piculs; 34,600 bundles rattans, 1,772 piculs. Per Planet to London from Sarawak: Antimony, 400 tons; 742 bags sago flour, 680 piculs; 1,750 boxes pearl sago, 1,882 piculs; 1,500 bundles mangrove bark, 500 piculs; 12 baskets dammar, 18 piculs; 1,190 canes. From Singapore: 8,568 blocks, 25 bags, gutta percha, 921 piculs; 730 bags black pepper, 500 piculs; 3,755 pieces sapanwood, 300 piculs; 19,168 bundles rattans, 500 piculs; 5,887 buffalo hides, 1,442 piculs; 16 cases gum benjamin. Per Land o' Cakes to London: 373 slabs tin, 250 piculs; 2,090 bales gambier, 5,208 piculs; 1,727 bags sago flour, 1,910 piculs; 91 boxes pearl sago, 107 piculs; 977 bags coffee, 956 piculs; 181 bags sugar, 172 piculs.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

From CHINA.—At London: Ocean Bride, Henrietta and Helena, Eastfield, Excelior, Alfred the Great, Kelso, William, Indiana, Beerah, Aerolite, Southern Belle, Finar Tuck, Sea Nymph, Flying Spray, Strathmore, Lord of the Isles, John S. Ott, Carl v. Ribbeck, Evening Star, Lauderdale, Empress, Ardville, City of Carlisle, Duke of Wellington, Clipper. At Liverpool: Jessie Beazley, Sydney, Valdivia, Egean, Tung-yu, Aden. At Hamburg: Wilhelmina, Memphis o. Nancy. At Cowes and other ports: Harriet, Susannah, Canaan, Cuthbert, Ravensworth, Kirkland, Hanover.

From SINGAPORE.—At London: Anne McLean, Koh-noor, Britannia, Maria de Deira, Bullfinch, Highlander, Planet, Land o' Cakes. At Liverpool: Calphurnia, Sea Queen, Countess of Winton, Amethyst, Isabella, Harnett. At Cardiff: Boredina. At Cowes: Buenos Ayres, Babern Snare, Lucy and Harriet.

From MANILA.—At London: Elizabeth, Derby, Helen, Trafalgar. At Liverpool: W. J. Morris, Sir J. Moore, Eglantine, T. D. Marshall, Queen of England. At Falmouth: Boldon Lawn, Charger.

From PENANG.—At London: Malacca, Walsokem, Malvern, Sanderson, James Paton, Undaunted.

From BATAVIA.—At London: Eliza Thornton, Richard Thornton. At Falmouth and other ports: Royal Sovereign, Jane, Elise, Memesia.

VESSELS SPOKEN WITH.

GRAAFSTROOM, Rotterdam to Batavia, Dec. 11, 2 N., 22 W. KIMPRAN AAN DE JER, Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 18, 49 N., 5 W. LINCELES, London to Hong Kong.

HOLLAND'S TOWN, Swansea to Hong Kong, Jan. 11, 49 N., 11 W.

ABEL TASHMAN (Dutch barque), Rotterdam to Batavia, Nov. 29, 21 S., 30 W.

TWELFEL ZUSTERS (do.), Batavia to Queenstown, Dec. 4, 25 S., 4 E.

ANDER, Boston to Singapore, Nov. 30, lon. 13, lat. 33.

MAIDA, London to Shanghai, Dec. 14, 17 S., 33 W.

TAGAL, Batavia to London, Nov. 4, 25 S., 60 E.

AN ENGLISH BARQUE, Oporto to Shanghai, Dec. 25, 19 N., 24 W.

COUNTRESS OF SEFTON, Shanghai to New York, Dec. 4, 28 S., 9 E.

PORTUNA (Dutch barque), Rotterdam to Padang, Dec. 20, 7 S., 31 W.

KAAP HOORN, Batavia to Rotterdam, Dec. 7, 33 S., 32 E.

GLENDOWER, London to China, Oct. 24, 1 S., lon. 28.

PHILOTAKE, Batavia to Antwerp, Dec. 7, 34 S., 26 E.

QUEEN MAB, Singapore to Liverpool, Dec. 9, 35 S., 22 E.

BREDEBODE, Plymouth to China, Dec. 31, 6 N., 22 W.

LIEUT. ADM. TJEER EDDER, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 8, 36 S., 20 E.

BUNKER HILL, Singapore to London, Dec. 3, 35 S., 26 E.

SOLIDE, Rangoon to Falmouth, Dec. 10, 33 S., 14 E.

SEA QUEEN, from Singapore, Oct. 20, 5 S., 106 E.

DIANA (supposed) Manila to New York, Dec. 9, 32 S., lon. 12.

CANDACE, Cardiff to China, Dec. 31, 9 N., 24 W.

TANTALLAN (Dutch), Java to Amsterdam, Dec. 9, 14 S., 8 W.

NABOB, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Dec. 28, 5 N., 25 W.

JOHAN LANGE, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Dec. 29, 8 N., 21 W.

CLIFTON, London to Manila, Dec. 30, 10 N., 25 W.

CONCORDIA (Bremen barque), Sunderland to Singapore, 40 W., 5 N.

WM. STUART, Clyde to Singapore, Dec. 8, 4 N., 22 W.

SAPPHO, Liverpool to Shanghai, Jan. 4, 2 N., 20 W.

EASTFIELD, Shanghai to London, Nov. 17, 13 S., 84 E.

LIGHTNING, Maulmain to Falmouth, Dec. 4, off Algon Bay.

VIFF VRIENDEN, Batavia to Rotterdam, Dec. 11, 32 S., 15 E.

NIGHTINGALE, Shanghai to New York, Dec. 22.

ELIZA OF BRISTOL, Plymouth to Manila.

JASON, Rotterdam to Batavia, Dec. 17, 2 N., 20 W.

HIDALGO, Liverpool to Singapore, Dec. 30, 6 N., 23 W.

JOAN MELCHIOR, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 3, 25 S., 14 E.

FORTE, for Chinese expedition, Dec. 29, 6 N., 25 W.

MOUNTAIN WAY, Philadelphia to Shanghai, Oct. 20, 3 N., 107 E.

JOHN S. COSTA, Penang to London, Nov. 23, 35 S., 27 E.

CAPELLA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Dec. 28, 2 N., 21 W.

MONTGOMERY (Spanish ship) Vigo to Manila, 109 days out, 34 S., 163 E.

S. GILDERSLEV, Shanghai to New York, Nov. 26, 23 S., 26 E.

ARAB (Danish barque), Hamburg to Singapore, Nov. 5, 28 N., 20 W.

QUATRE BRAS, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Dec. 20, 26 S., 60 E.

MEROEDER, Hong Kong to Melbourne, Dec. 12, 26 S., 96 E.

ESDYMON, Liverpool to Singapore, Nov. 29, 34 S., 14 W.

RICHARD THORNTON, Batavia to London, Dec. 28, 29 S., 61 E.

H.M.S. JAMES WATT, England to Singapore, Dec. 7, 43 S., 15 E.

JULIANE (Hamburg ship) Liverpool to Batavia, Dec. 30, 7 N., 24 W.

SIR W. F. WILLIAMS, Liverpool to Shanghai, Oct. 9, 43 N., 13 W.

WILHELMINA & CLARA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Dec. 1, 6 N., 25

CLOVIS, Marseilles to Hong Kong, Nov. 28, 7 N., 26 W.

QUEENSBERRY, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Dec. 18, 30 S., 26 W.

FAUSTO (Russian barque), Noulmein to Falmouth, Dec. 31, 18 S., 3 W.

KELSO (ship), Foo Chow Foo to London, Jan. 1, 17 S., 5 W.

JEANNETTE, Batavia & Mauritius, to Rotterdam, Dec. 13, 34 S., 18 E.

ISAAC DA COSTA, Sunderland to Singapore, Jan. 30, 60 N., 4 W.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.—From China to England and Continent: Dec. 2, Edmond; 4, Strathmore; 5, Kirkland; 8, Sea Nymph; 12, Aden; 15, Lauderdale, Evening Star, Cal von Ribbeck; 17, Hanover; 20, Lucy and Harriet. To New York: 7, Easton State; 8, David Brown; 12, Samuels Russell; 13, Black Prince; 15, Currituck Horatio; 16, Panama. To Havana: 14, Norway. To Sydney and Melbourne: 2, Norma; 7, Flying Spray; 10, Canradia Luckman; 15, Cyclone; 17, Europa, Ardville. From Singapore to England and Continent: 14, Amethyst; 15, Buenos Ayres, Babern Snare; 18, Isabella Harnett; 19, Nicoline; 20, Pl net. From Batavia: 3, Richard Thornton; 7, Ludwig Holm. From Manila to New York: 11, J. S. Ha'e; 15, Eastern Star. To Boston: 15, Belvidere. To Cadiz: 17, Sales. To Havana: 21, Rosita. To Melbourne: 17, Industry.

VESSELS AT ST. HELENA.—Dec. 20, Tagal Gobel, from Batavia, and sailed 22nd for Middelburg; Wilhelmina, Benedictsen, from Macao, and sailed 23rd for Falmouth; 22, Earl of Southesk, Pell, from Shanghai, and sailed for London; 27, Henrietta Maria, de Boer, from Batavia, and sailed 29th for Amsterdam; Ravensworth, Appelby, from Foo-Chow-Foo, and sailed 28th for Cowes; 23, Nankin, Moseley, from Foo-Chow-Foo, and sailed 29th for Queenstown; Charles Martel, s.s., David, from Macao and Reunion; Britannia, Krause, from Singapore, and sailed 29th for London; W. J. Morris, Jackson, from Manila, and sailed 29th for Liverpool; 29, William Sprague, Powers, from Manila; Zeeland, Hazewinkel, from Batavia; Valparaiso, Smit, from Batavia; Vereininging, de Jongh, from Batavia; 30, Helena Anna, Lupcke, from Batavia; 20, Anna Lange, from China for England.

At ALGOA BAY.—Dec. 13, Wynaud, Reid, from Shanghai for London—to replace main-topgallant yard, having had two carried away at sea.

At SIMON'S BAY.—Dec. 4, Forest Eagle, M'Lelland, from Cardiff for Shanghai, making 14 inches water per hour; Nov. 23, sailed for China H. M. steamer Pioneer; Dec. 9, H. M. steamer Pearl; 17, Forest Eagle.

VESSELS AT TABLE BAY.—Nov. 26, from Singapore, Christian, Loven; from Hong Kong, Susannah, both for Falmouth; from Rangoon, Boomerang, for Queenstown; 27, from Penang, Time, for New York; from Singapore, Volant, for Boston; Dec. 1, from Maulmain, Helios; 8, from Batavia, Palas, Daban; 10, from Maulmain, Prince Arthur, Wyness; from Singapore, Calphurnia, Westlake, and sailed 18th for Liverpool; 18, from Maulmain, Salams, Hedman.

SHIPPING CASUALTIES.

The Charles Brownell, Bedford, from Singapore to Liverpool, which got ashore on Bernard's wharf, in the river Mersey, became lodged, and on the 23rd Jan. had nine feet of water in her. Her cargo was discharged into lighters. The vessel has since been got off, and taken into Fleetwood harbour.

The Erasmus, Van Heiningen, from Rotterdam for Hong Kong, put into Portsmouth, Jan. 27, leaky, having experienced very heavy weather in the Channel. She has been surveyed, and will be lightened.

The Hester Adriana, Van Hees, from Cardiff to Singapore, put into Lisbon, Jan. 29, leaky, and, it is said, will discharge there.

The Malacca (ship), Bedell, of and from London to Penang, which arrived at St. Helena Dec. 11, has been again surveyed, and, it is said, has to discharge the whole of her cargo.

The Gallego (American barque) and the Jane (English barque) have been chartered to take on the cargo of the Neptunus, Schuurman, from Batavia to Rotterdam, condemned at St. Helena.

The Anne Lee, Ramsay, for Hong Kong, put back to Falmouth, Jan. 29. The Wassenaar, Hofstee, for Batavia, put back to Texel, Jan. 27, leaky, and master sick.

The Agincourt, Pashley, which arrived at Plymouth, Jan. 30, from Rangoon, had sustained slight damage from heavy weather.

The hull and materials of the William Wilmet, from Maulmain to Falmouth, which put into Simon's Bay, Sept. 27, leaky, have been sold there, as well as a quantity of her cargo.

The Maria Augusta, Bystrom, from Batavia, reports that on Jan. 26, in lat. 35 N., lon. 35 W., she experienced a heavy shock from a submarine convulsion, which lasted about 30 sec.; twenty-four hours afterwards a heavy gale commenced, which continued until her arrival at Queenstown.

St. Agnes, Jan. 30.—The heels of three large masts, two of them, the fore and main, being built, and two or three large beams with iron knees, evidently belonging to a large foreign ship, wrecked somewhere to the westward, have come ashore on this coast. Some papers supposed to belong to the same vessel, dated Pasarang, May 26, and bearing the name Maria Elizabeth Margaretha, and signed by H. L. M. Latour, mate, have been picked up on the Holywell Sands, Memo. The Maria Elizabeth Margaretha, Banditz, sailed from Cardiff for Singapore, Jan. 16, with coals. According to advice from Brest, dated Jan. 31, came ashore the previous night in Camaret Bay, and was totally lost. Master and nine men drowned.

The taffrail of a ship, with stern-board marked "Dinapore, London," has been washed ashore on the coast of France, near Plouguerneau.

The Loodianah, which arrived at Liverpool, Feb. 7, from Singapore, had encountered a severe gale from S.W., Nov. 26 and 27, when off the Cape, during which she lost bulwarks, and had a man washed from the wheel. After passing the Western Islands she experienced a succession of gales, and on Jan. 30, while lying to in a hurricane, was struck by a heavy sea, which carried away nearly all her bulwarks, rails, and several stanchions from the port side, stove long-boat, &c.

The Glencoe (ship), of Glasgow, bound from Shields to Hong Kong, laden with coal, broke from her moorings at Shields on the morning of Feb. 8, during a gale from the westward, and drove on the inland, but was expected to float next tide.

The Koophandel, De Vries, late De Boer, which arrived at Texel, Jan. 30, from Batavia, had encountered heavy weather during the passage; became leaky, had bulwarks and a portion of her deck gear washed away, and it is supposed has sprung her mainmast.

The Eliza Hands, Lamb, from Liverpool, for Singapore, put into Falmouth, 2nd Feb., with loss of bulwarks, boat, galley, &c.

The Beurs Van Rotterdam (Dutch barque), De Vos, from Batavia to Rotterdam, put into Mauritius, 19 Dec., leaky, and is discharging cargo.

The Pieter (Dutch barque), Lammerts, from Batavia to Amsterdam, put into Mauritius, 24th Dec., having sprung a leak, and carried away fore and main masts in a hurricane, in lat. 29 S., lon. 50 E., which lasted for 24 hours; her cargo was discharged.

The Earl of Eglinton, Wardrop, from London to Calcutta, got on shore near St. Margaret's Bay (Downs), on the morning of the 29th Jan., at 2.30, and has become a wreck. The cargo has been partly discharged into luggers mostly in a damaged state, and the ship is being dismantled. She has since sustained further damage to a serious extent. The heavy sea and high tides have burst up the deck, but much of the remaining cargo may yet be saved as the tide falls.

The Sir Colin Campbell, Ralph, Cardiff to Hong Kong, with coals, has foundered at sea; crew were saved, and arrived at Lisbon previous to 6th Feb.

WRECK OF THE DINAPORE.—TWENTY-TWO LIVES LOST.—The loss of this ship, belonging to Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M.P., on the coast of France, has created a painful interest. She was chartered to take a cargo of coal from Cardiff to Aden. Captain Lilwall was accompanied by his wife, who, it is stated, being near her confinement, had a surgeon and female servant (nurse) on board. Captain Lilwall, his wife, servant, surgeon, and 18 of the crew, took to the long-boat (the life-boat having previously been washed away), and the chief officer, Mr. Thompson, and nine seamen to the dingy, which was at the stern of the ship. The latter were picked up by a French pilot-lugger and landed at Conquet, but of the long-boat not the slightest tidings have yet been heard, and the belief is that they must have perished.

FOREIGN.

HONG-KONG.—The Joseph Fletcher, Captain Pook, from Auckland to Shanghai, has been totally lost on the Loochoo Island. Five of the crew drowned.

SINGAPORE.—The Royal Lily, which left this port on the 31st December, for London, struck on a reef near Bintang Point, and was totally lost. The crew have arrived here.

The British barque Royal Sovereign, from Batavia to Cork, was lost off Mauna, by springing a leak, on the 20th November. Captain and four of the crew reached Bencoolen; the rest of the crew were at Mauna, laid up by sickness.

The Dutch mail steamer, Batavia, damaged her machinery, and the overland passengers for Batavia were detained at Singapore.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

To India, berth freights are much depressed, 60s per register ton being the full rate offered for Calcutta, Bombay, Kurrachee, Ceylon, Madras, or Singapore. Coal freights continue dull for Aden, but for Bombay, Galle, or Singapore, the inquiry is good, and the tendency is towards an advance. In out and home freights 100s is offered for Ceylon, 130s Moulmein (teak), 100s Calcutta, &c.; or home only 52s 6d Calcutta, 35s Bombay, 40s Manila, 70s Moulmein (teak), &c. To China, 65s is offered for coals to Shanghai.

A Government contract was advertised for 8,000 tons of coal for Singapore, and tenders were made at 46s. per ton.

Rates of freight current to Shanghai 70s per ton dead weight; 55s per ton of 40-feet measurement. To Hong Kong, 60s, weight, 50s measurement. To Singapore, 40s, weight or measurement. To Manila, 35s and 40s. To Japan, £5 weight, 90s measurement. To Batavia, 50s weight, 40s measurement. At the United States:—To Shanghai, coal and measurement goods, 9 to 10 dols.

FOREIGN.

AT SHANGHAI.—For England, 11. 10s. For New York, 5 dols. The quantity of shipping is very much reduced, and the trade in the coast or Japan is very dull. The Kate Kearney is settled to Swatow 25 days for 850 dols.

AT HONG KONG, MACAO, AND CANTON.—For London, 11. 10s. to 21. For New York, 5 dols. To Australia and California, 22 dols. net for passengers, and 11. 10s. for cargo. Consisting employment seems active, and a number of vessels have been fixed to load rice for Siam at 32½ to 40 cents per picul. Tonnage, however, is still great in excess of demand, and the coolie freights are almost confined to American ships.

AT SINGAPORE.—The current rates are 11. 5s. for tin, 11. 10s. for sago, Gambia, and sugar, 21. for pepper, coffee, and measurement goods.

AT BATAVIA.—The Edward and Julie has been fixed for Europe at 31. to load at two ports. The Cail and August for the same voyage at 21. 15s.

AT MANILA.—The Spanish brig Torre del Oro has been chartered at 21. 7s. 6d. per ton of sugar to Falmouth and a port in the United Kingdom; 5s. extra to the Continent. To the United States nothing has been done. There is very little offering, and only one or two seeking ships in port. The Talbot refused 35s. per ton of sugar to England.

INSURANCE.

The following are the current rates of premium at Lloyd's, according to the class of vessels, &c.:—To Hong Kong, 40s to 50s. Shanghai 50s to 60s. Singapore, 30s to 45s. Batavia, 30s to 40s. Manila, 50s to 60s. Nominal quotation for Jeddo, 70s to 80s.

At Hamburg, for Batavia and Singapore, 40s to 45s. China and Manila 50s to 60s.

LAUNCHES.—STEAMERS FOR INDIA.—On Thursday Mr. John Laird floated a steamer which has been built in the Birkenhead Docks, and which is the fourth of a series of vessels intended for the navigation of the Indian rivers. These vessels are long, broad, and shallow, and when laden they float at an immersion of 2 ft. or less. They are built of the homogeneous metal, which is light, strong, and durable; and their framing, which is a kind of tubular girders, is ingeniously disposed in arches, angles, and other forms of strength, above the deck. The engines are placed very high, to drive large wheels, which are to skim the water and no more; and the vessels are steered by double rudders at each end, which are like fans, and are hung on bridle chains, so that as one fan dips into the water the other must leave it. In these vessels every effort has been made to furnish accommodation on deck, the hull of the steamers being used merely for flotation.

STEAMER LYE-MOON.—This vessel will be ready for her trial trip in about two weeks.

PASSENGERS INWARDS.—Per Wilhelmina Lucia, Capt. Poolman, at Amsterdam from Batavia: Mr. J. C. van Gebaur. Per Noord Brabant, Capt. Bok, at Rotterdam from Batavia; Capt. J. Teensma, Capt. J. R. Bok, Capt. and Mrs. Belling, Mrs. Widow Karthau and two children, and Mr. Arnold and family.

LAUNCH AT ABERDEEN.—From the building yard of Messrs. Alexander Hall and Co., on the 7th inst., the fine clipper ship Ocean Mail, built expressly for the China trade, of the following dimensions:—164 feet cut keel, 12 feet for rake, 31 feet beam, 20 feet depth of hold, a flush ship; she is fitted with Cunningham's patent reefing topsails, Emerson and Walker's windlass, wire rigging, and all the recent improvements. She belongs to Henry Adamson, Esq., of Aberdeen.

STEAMER FAN QUI.—This screw steamer made her trial trip on the 14th instant on the Clyde, when her engines worked at 70 revolutions per minute, with an average speed of 11½ knots (about 13 miles) an hour, with the greatest smoothness, the engines working perfectly. She is loading at the Broomielaw, and will sail for Singapore and Hong Kong at the latter end of the month. The ladies and gentlemen who accompanied her on this occasion, on their return sat down to an excellent dinner, and among the toasts were, "Prosperity to the Owners (Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co.), and Mr. D. Lapraik, of Hong Kong), and to the Fan Qui." "The health of J. A. Lane, Esq.," "The health of Captain Baker," &c. &c. In our next we shall notice her fittings, &c.

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[For dates, see first page.]

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Ditto	3 ditto	..	..
At Singapore	6 ditto	4 9 to 4 9½	4 9½ to 4 10
Ditto	3 ditto	..	..
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